Ponconformist.

THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION.

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

LIBERAL OBGANISATION AND DISESTABLISHMENT.

On all sides we hear of Liberal organisation. In every borough of importance the electors are meeting together in their various wards, and appointing representatives on a central body. The Liberal 200 or 400, as the case may be, will henceforth be a formidable element in the calculation of forces on the verge of an election. It is not, indeed, to be taken for granted that this kind of organisation will work everywhere as smoothly as it does in Birmingham; but at any rate it supplies a machinery which, under certain conditions, will wonderfully facilitate the concentration of Liberal forces. Foremost amongst these conditions is the existence of some great question which appeals directly to political passion, and by the enthusiasm it arouses bears down all subsidiary differences. A very slight obstacle will stop the working of an engine when the pressure of steam is low; and so in the present condition of political apathy mere local bickerings and personal jealousies often constitute insuperable obstacles to the healthy constitution of Liberal associations. It is not unlikely that the same causes may wreck the machinery of many others, when the first experiments are made in important political action. Birmingham affords a very uncertain precedent in this respect. Advanced Liberalism, or to speak plainly Radicalism, has long been in the ascendant there, and the habit of united action has been so strongly formed, that even in times of depression it overbears all attempts at schism. Such is not the case, however, in most other constituencies; and to suppose that mere organisation can do the work of sound conviction and deep feeling, would only be to court disappointment and disaster. The real value of these Liberal organisations is, that they create convenient channels through which the political afflatus can be made to work when once it arises. But the quarter whence that afflatus is to come is a question which might very well receive more consideration than it does at present.

For ourselves we do not hesitate to express our conviction that, failing some fierce conflict on the subject of foreign politics, an occasion for which may now arise at any moment, there is absolutely nothing that can stir the political apathy of the time, except only the question of

our two remaining Church Establishments. Under the reign of neo-Conservatism inaugurated by the present Premier, neither the county franchise, nor the liquor traffic, nor any other social question, raises such a plain issue between Toryism and Radicalism, as is likely to renew the heroic conflicts out of which alone Liberalism has ever come forth really triumphant. The question of education does indeed appeal to the most vital interest of the people at large; and on this point there is a clear issue between the Tories who subordinate education to the privileges of the Church, and the Liberals who insist upon an exclusive regard to the moral and intellectual interests of the nation. But the legislation initiated by Mr. Forster has had the effect of obscuring that issue under a cloud of temporary compromises; and on this subject a new departure has become absolutely impossible until the relations of Church and State are fundamentally altered. On the whole, then, we are convinced that the value of the new Liberal organisations will never be realised, and their full power will never be felt, until they are made the means of developing the vast body of semi-conscious and inarticulate opinion which for many years has been gradually accumulating against the political establishment of religion.

A few references to recent utterances on this subject will show that we are indulging in no abstract speculations. Nearly seven years ago Mr. Gladstone, replying to Mr. Miall in the House of Commons, enlarged with his usual impressive eloquence upon the gigantic, and as, he insinuated, the impossible, task of disestablishing the Anglican Church. According to him, the prospect of such an achievement was so remote as to be practically out of sight. But what seems impossible to the experience of age, rich in the maxims of a dying time, appears in a very different light to the young, whose faces are towards the future. Mr. W. H. Gladstone has a noble inheritance in the name, example, and inspirations of his father; and though it is yet, perhaps, too early to judge of his future, he seems to understand that the most precious things in his inheritance are not stereotyped maxims, but germinant principles, capable of rapid expansion. With him, according to a speech delivered to his constituents last week, the question of disestablishment is not one of abstract speculation, but already a necessary matter of discussion. "He thought it was quite clear that it must first arise with reference to the Church of Scotland." He declared this Church to be an anomaly such as was hardly to be found elsewhere in the world. "He did not believe that in an age like this, when all institutions had to give a good account of themselves if they were to exist, such an anomaly as that could ever endure for long; and, when the people of Scotland had made up their minds about it, he did not think there would be much hanging back on the part of the Liberals in disestablishing the Church of Scotland." Mr. Gladstone then proceeded to point out the differences that admittedly exist in the case of the English Church. "At the same time he by no means ventured to predict a very long life for the Established Church of England." He showed that if, on the one hand, the Anglican Establishment had a broader basis than the Scottish Kirk, there is, on the other hand, a reason

for unstable equilibrium here which does not exist on the other side the border. The tendencies of Ritualism on the one side, and of legislation to put down Ritualism on the other, produce a state of tension which, in the nature of things, cannot be of very long endurance. Mr. W. H. Gladstone has not been alone during the last few weeks in the expression of similar opinion. An ex-Cabinet Minister, Mr. Stansfeld, declared recently at Halifax, "that the individual life of the Church is impossible so long as she is a department of the State, and that a free Church in a free State is the issue towards which we are rapidly approaching." Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen, who, as a member of the late Government, voted against the Burials Bill on the ground that it would injure the Church, declared the other day at Deal that the great question could no longer be pushed aside, and must be dealt with very shortly, perhaps in the lifetime of all his hearers. Sir Harcourt Johnstone, speaking at Scarborough, maintained that freedom, autonomy, true liberty to the Church could only be secured by her separation from the State; a declaration which caused the Rev. R. Brown Borthwick, Vicar of All Saints, to withdraw publicly from the number of his supporters. Such illustrations show that we cannot be far wrong in maintaining that the only aim which will breathe the breath of life into the dry bones of Liberal organisation is the final establishment of religious equality in this land.

"POLITICAL DISSENT."

This is the title of an article in the current number of the Fortnightly Review, from the facile and vigorous pen of the Rev. J. G. Rogers. We trust very many of our readers may be able to read for themselves the weighty considerations urged by Mr. Rogers with his usual power, and, as it appears to us, with remarkable conclusiveness. All we can do here is to indicate, as far as can be done in a condensed form, the drift of the article, which, looking at recent discussions, is a very timely contribution to the controversy which has lately occupied so much of public attention.

By his Reform Bill Mr. Disraeli, says the writer, hoped to destroy the power of Nonconformists in the constituencies, but he has only partially succeeded in that object. The "decorous timidity of prosperous Dissent" never counted for so little, but the living force of true Nonconformist principles never told for so much. Dissent, it is true, does not find much sympathy with the residuum; but the better section of the working classes can understand great questions of public right: and so far as Nonconformists, with something of the old Puritan temper in them, are found contending for justice on broad grounds of principle which the new electors are able to appreciate and share, so far may they calculate on their sympathy. The Nonconformists are the one section of the Liberal party whom even the most intriguing Conservatives make no attempt to conciliate; for they know that the influence of Nonconformists will always be, as it has been, on the side of a broad and progressive policy, because it is associated with profound religious convictions, and is thus sure to be a mighty power on behalf

both of freedom and righteousness.

There is a Liberalism which would in some

sort reform the National Church and redress the practical grievances of Nonconformists, but takes no account of what it calls sentimental grievances. The first stage of their urited journey has now been passed, and, Nonconformists having another goal in view, the old companions are in danger of heavying the beautiest of extremists. of becoming the keenest of antagonists. The new school of Liberals, who might indeed receive the adhesion of moderate Conservatives, think that the maxims of common-sense ought to shape the policy of a nation as well as be applied to private business. The teachers of this school require that our judgment of the Puritans and their influence on English history should be reversed, and the Church Quarterly Review goes so far as to claim the entire credit of the successful resistance to the mischievous policy of James II. for the Establishment, and to impeach the Dissenters of that day of a cowardly, not to say criminal, subserviency to the Romanising designs of the Court.
The Nonconformists had been cruelly persecuted by the Church, and if they had acted as vindictive sectaries rather than as patriots, it is doubtful whether the Revolution of 1688 would have been possible. It was the "political Nonconformists" of that time who fought the battle of freedom, while the ancestors of the "religious Dissenters" were the moderate men who were prepared to close with the offers of James's Court. Since the Revolution the whole power of Nonconformist has been exerted in support of the reforms, social and political, of which, according to the Times, the Church has been the uncompromising and p-resistent opponent. In this they have only obeyed the dictates of conscience and fought the battles of principle. But they have certainly established a right to consideration when, having served throughout the whole of the long war against privilege, in which Liberalism has been cugaged, they ask now that the united strength of the party should be directed against those ecclesia-tical privileges which press so severely upon themselves.

Some Churchmen console themselves with the belief that it is only a certain section of Nonconformists that are zealous for political action, and that a large number of them, who are enamoured of the Establishment and desirous to maintain its ascendancy, contain all the piety and wisdom which exists among Dissenters. But happily the notion that it is a reproach to a Christian to be known as an active politician is losing its force, and even candid Churchmen are becoming ashamed to sneer at the "political Dissenter," while the number of Dissenters scared by it is every year decreasing. It is now beginning to be perceived that there may be the deepest religious conviction at the root of the public action of "political Dissenters," and that it is a piece of shameful injustice to assume that they are less earnest as Christians because they are more energetic as politicians. But is the aggressive policy supported by the great force of Nonconformist opinion in the country? Those who answer in the negative must ignore the fact that political Dissent has at least been able to secure all the triumphs already won on behalf of religious liberty, and won in defiance of the neutrality or secret oppo-sition of "religious Dissenters."

Mr. Rogers goes on to show how elastic is the term "Nonconformist," when employed for a purpose by its enemies. It includes all non-established communities when the object is to suggest disunion; but when the desire is to reduce the estimated strength of Nonconformity, it is limited to those who are theoretical as well as practical Non-conformists. In a sense the Free Church of Scotland and the Wesleyans must be regarded as holding a position of neutrality, though, as a matter of fact, both have inflicted most serious damage upon the National Church of their respective countries. No one has a right to reproach them for taking that attitude. They have been independent allies of Dissent in its struggles, and their position is quite intelligible. With the Wesleyans it means intelligible. With the Wesleyans it means that while they dissent from the Anglican Church on doctrinal or other religious grounds, they consider that proper provision should be made for the religious instruction of all classes by the maintenance of a National Church. There does, however, seem to be a grave inconsistency in supporting a National Church by argument and vote, and, at the same time, doing the utmost to weaken its influence by the establishment of separate societies outside; and, besides, it acquiesces in the fuller development of the evil protested against. But, in point of fact, the ranks of political Dissent are being continually reinforced by the accession of those who, having hitherto been Nonconformists of this type, have teen forced by the rapid growth of sacer-dotalism, and the irritation caused by the

arrogant spirit it has engendered, into a position of decided hostility to the Establishment itself. Mr. Rogers proceeds to show how decided has been the influence exercised in this direction upon the religious Dissenters by the action of such kind-hearted but arrogant prelates as the Bishop of Lincoln, as in the Owston Ferry case. Such exhibitions are telling upon the religious Dissenters, in whom a secret irritation is being nurtured which bodes serious evil to the State Church, and may become one of the most potent forces for its overthrow.

potent forces for its overthrow. Then there is a rapidly-diminishing section of Dissenters who, while accepting the principles of the Liberation Society, seem to think that the Establishment is so full of rottenness and decay that, if left alone, it will be destroyed by internal explosive forces. This is a very questionable view. It is possible, but hardly probable, that High-Churchmen may be forced into secession; and as to Evangelical Churchmen, vehemently as they denounce Ritualists as traitors, and express alarm at the growth of sacerdotalism, no consideration would induce them to secede; and so that they may hold their position in peace, they are resigned to endure any kind of false teaching which the courts may tolerate, and to join with the High-Church in condemning political Dissent. Even if the prospect of internal disruption were as hopeful as it is visionary, it would not be for the good of the nation that disestablishment should be thus brought about. That great work ought to be done by the nation, as the result of a conviction wrought in the mind of the nation as a whole, with a supreme regard to national, and not to sectarian, interests. To expect that those who profit by the existing system will effect its overthrow is to ignore all experience. The clergy, who have supported all other classes in the defence of their vested interests, are not likely tamely to surrender their own, and whatever feeling there is in the Church in favour of disestabl shment has been largely the result of Nonconformist teachings. There never was a time when Dissenters were less disposed to accept the suggestion that they should fold their arms and simply watch the growth of opinion which is to shatter the Establishment, or to be scared from the righteous application of

their own principles by prophecies of disaster, either from Romanism or Rationalism.

The men who talk to them of the danger of withdrawing any patronage which the State at present gives to what it is pleased to establish as the truth, little understand the spirit of those to whom they talk. Even if they did not know that this fancied support is merely flusory, their own experience teaches them that it is unnecessary. They have learned the lesson of Scripture and history too well to suppose that the kingdom of Christ needs to be buttressed up by mere political institutions; and if they ever yielded so far to the weakness of nature as to listen to the suggestion that the "chariots and horses" of human power were essential to the maintenance of its spiritual dominion, the state of things around them is sufficient to silence so unworthy a thought. How can they believe that the interests of Protestantism are conserved by an Establishment, under whose shelter are erected masked batteries, from which the most deadly assaults are directed against all for which Protestants have gallantly struggled or nobly suffered? Or how can they suppose that unbelief will ever be overcome by a system which tacitly confesses that the truth of God is too feeble to assert its own authority, unless the forces of law be enlisted to supplement its inefficient power? Reproach them for association with unbelievers or sympathy with unbelief! They may, rather, with retorted scorn, direct the reproach against those whose craven fears for the future of God's truth show how imperfectly they have appreciated the grand principle which they dare nevertheless to brandish as their watchword,—"Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit, saith the Lord of Hosts." In their unfaltering confidence in this spiritual force, the political Dissenters show the same lofty disdain of the substitutes for it expressed by the brave old Hebrew, who in the hour of weakness and difficulty chose rather to trust in God than in man, and (strange and unintelligible as i

That is the root of the political action of Nonconformists. It is a principle which is of the very essence of their Nonconformity, and the difficulty is not to understand so much how it places the vast majority of them in active hostility to a State Church, as to see how any can sit down content with a state of things which is an outrage on their fundamental idea of the Church of Christ.

Where this tacit acquiescence in grave evils, which their loyalty to their Master should constrain them to oppose, proceeds from excessive amiability, and simply induces silence where there ought to be brave and manly speech, it is sad enough. Truth would win but few victories if those who profess to love it hesitated to assert its claims until it could be done without personal inconvenience, if they consulted the feelings of its enemies, and feared to wound them, or waited till there was a sure prospect of early success before breaking a lance on its behalf. But when a Nonconfermist goes

beyond this apathetic indifference, and begins to hint doubts as to the efficacy of the power in which he has professed to trust, protests against removing the props by which statecraft has sought to uphold truth, seems afraid to commit the defence and extension of the Gospel which he believes to be from God to its Author, and those whom He calls to the work, and seems willing to be the victim of injustice himself, rather than unite in political action with unbelievers for the assertion of a common right, it only shows how he has failed to rise to the level of the principles which he professes. Whether this unbelief in the vital energy of the truth, this willingness to trust to injustice and coercion for the maintenance of the kingdom which is "righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost"; this reluctance to adopt in legislation the great Christian law, Whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do yo even so to them; this fear to do right, and trust the issue to the living God, be more religious than the singleness of eye and simplicity of purpose, for which there can be but one law, and which seeks to carry that out everywhere, may be left to the judgment of a tribunal whose decision will not be warped by interest, or affected by the passions and caprices of the hour.

The truth is that the defenders of the Establish-

The truth is that the defenders of the Establishment attach more importance to the apparent division of sentiment among Nonconformists than it deserves. The Congregationalists and Baptists form a compact phalanx in favour of disestablishment, and to them may be added a considerable section of Presbyterians, and the younger branches of the Methodist family, while the Wesleyans are being very rapidly converted to the same view. The resolutions of these representative bodies, and the electoral action of the constituencies in which the Nonconformist element is predominant, support this conclusion. Dissenters are, in fact, becoming more resolute, more intelligent in the grasp of their principles, more deeply convinced of the necessity for their immediate application.

The hope that they will be propitiated by a few pleasant courtesies and complements is one of the vainest that ever deceived the imagination. If any of their leaders could be thus propitiated, their influence with their own party would be destroyed. Nonconformists are too independent to be blind followers of any man, and they are too much in earnest at present to be diverted from the object they have in view, which is the complete emancipation of religion from the interference of the State. Their own grievances they could easily endure till the nation should awake to the sense of the injustice which it inflicts, when it confers special privileges on the adherents of a particular Church to the disparagement of all others. When, indeed, the Marquis of Hartington exhibits so much susceptibility as to the grievances of Scottish Dissenters, who have not to suffer the stregance of a priesthood which treats all other ministers of religion as unauthorised intru lers, are not separated from their fellow-citizens by broad and distinct lines of demarcation, are not excluded from the public graveyards, and in short, have an Establishment of the mildest form, English Nonconformists may reasonably think that they suffer wrongs to which Liberal chiefs may before long give some consideration. But any injustice they suffer is a small matter even to themselves, compared with the injury which in their view is inflicted on religion itself by the present state of things in the Establishment. They can afford to smile at those who reveal their own spirit, and give one of the most convincing proofs of the deleterious influence of the ascendancy which the State gives, by attributing their action to social jealousy. They can find more than ample justification for their action in the betrayal by the National Church of the very interests of which it has been regarded as the official guardian. They are indignant at the attempts to rivet on the neck of the nation the yoke of a priesthood, and yet they can have no sympathy with the proposals

The difficulty created by the pretensions of the Ritualist priests has been increasing, and has become all but intolerable, and recent revelations have brought home to society at large, even to the most cultured classes, the enormity of the evil which has been developed under the fostering influence of the Establishment. The article concludes as follows:—

If we are to judge by the tone of the public press of all parties, the first duty of the hour is to stamp out this evil; and if Liberal statesmen have nothing to say on the subject, they will forfeit their claim to be regarded as public leaders. But if they propose anything, what can it be but disestablishment? Legislation has been tried, but the fiace in which the Hatcham case has ended does not encourage a renewal of the experiment. They cannot, on their own principles, attempt to revise the Prayer-book, and so restrict still further that comprehensiveness which they have ever held to be the glory of the Establishment. If the National Church is to answer to the character they have always attributed to it, the Ritualists cannot be excluded; but it is equally certain that the people will not tolerate them within the National Church. The only course open is to end an institution that cannot be reformed, and yet cannot be perpetuated without abuses.

CANON CURTEIS IN REPLY TO THE REV. J. G. ROGERS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—I am glad that Mr. Rogers agrees to bury in oblivion the various charges of rash speech, which have been (it seems) pretty freely made on both sides in the present controversy. I am only pained by a little want of generosity when he uses such words as "conclusively refuted." And I am the more surprised at them, inasmuch as the world is still ringing with the echoes of Mr. Bright's speech at Rochdale, where the great Liberationist's attack on one of our most esteemed bishops was conclusively refuted by the discovery that the orator had attributed to the bishop, "words I never said, meanings I never meant, thoughts which I never think." For this rash speech Mr. Bright has (rather insufficiently) apologised; and therefore that speech, too, had better be buried in oblivion, where I, for my part, would willingly leave all these slips of tongue and pen. For, as Mr. Rogers rightly said at first, "No society can be answerable for every word that every one of its members, or indeed every one of its accredited agents, may say."

of its accredited agents, may say."

Leaving, then, I hope for good, these useless recriminations, we are called upon by Mr. Rogers's reply to address ourselves to two interesting questions.

(1) In what way, he asks are Liberationists

(1.) In what way, he asks, are Liberationists pushing the Church of England into the arms of the Erastians? I answer: not so much by the policy, which he refers to with approval, of erecting a new State-court for the purpose of enforcing, without mercy or adaptation, an Act of Uniformity two hundred years old. This policy I can understand; though I may not think it quite worthy of the occasion. But what I cannot reconcile to reason is this: I see many Liberationists who (like Mr. Rogers) sincerely desire the greater freedom and efficiency of their communion, who yet, with might and main, uphold the pretensions of the State to manage in its own way all the enormous powers now entrusted to her for spreading religion throughout the country. Now, frankly, is it likely that, if the House of Commons once gets the absolute ownership of this religious trust-property to manage it just as it pleases, it will be managed in a way that Dissenters would approve? If the answer to this question be in the affirmative, my wonder at the present Liberationist tactics certainly ceases; but it ceases, only to give place to a still greater wonder. For the results of success must assuredly be one of two things: either an Erastian Church, of vast power, will be established in this land (an alternative which many people think by far the more probable of the two); or else the whole plant and stock-in-trade of the largest Chris-tian institution in this country will be lost to Christianity, its sacred buildings will be converted into music-rooms, its parsonages sold for hunting-boxes, and its property be divided in a general scramble among the ratepayers, at

the remunerative measure of five shillings a piece, according to Mr. Dale, and of less than sixpence, according to Mr. Chamberlain.

Am I dreaming? I would fain hope I am, and that your esteemed correspondent can wake me up. To the latter part of his letter I will, with your permission, address myself next week.

Yours truly, G. H. CURTEIS.

SCOTTISH CHURCH NOTES.

The decided victory gained by Lord Hartington in the University of Edinburgh was a pleasant surprise, but, although it was at once accepted on all hands, as a sign that the tide had fairly turned, it did not prepare us for the still more conspicuous triumph of Liberalism in the University of Glasgow. Mr. Gladstone's election as Lord Rector was carried there not only by a sweeping majority, but with an enthusiasm which could leave no doubt on the public mind as to the direction of the currents which are now bearing our ingenuous youth along with them. Lord Selborne's subsequent election at St. Andrew's was a smaller matter; but it is of importance as completing the quadrilateral. Our four Scotch Universities have all now at their head prominent Liberal statesmen-three of whom (for Aberdeen has Mr. Forster) were members of the late Administration.

Mr. Taylor Innes finished, on Friday last, the course of lectures on Church and State which has been going on for four weeks in Free St. George's, Edinburgh. Principal Rainy delivered the first, which went back to the origin of things, and which was necessarily somewhat dry. Lord

Moncrieff gave the next two, bringing the subject down to the Disruption, which he vindicated in a way which will be remembered. Speaking as a judge well acquainted with questions of "jurisdiction," he stated emphatically and significantly, that the grand point of difference between the Erastians who maintained the Scottish Establishment, and the Nonconformists who dissented from it, lay in the views they respectively took of the origin or source of Church authority. It was not much, he said, to prove that the Established Churches are free practically, if this freedom was allowed to have been given by the State, and to be dependent on its good will. The strength of the Free Churches lay in the position that they claimed their freedom as a Divine right. Mr. Taylor Innes' lecture made the practical application of the series. He went forward frankly to disestablishment, laying down the law that the endowments belonged not to any one church but to the nation, and suggesting education as a common benefit to which they might with advantage be applied. This last lecture was the most popular and telling of the four. I suppose, however, they will be all collected and published by-and-by in a volume. The Rev. Alexander Whyte, the minister of St. George's (which, I may mention, is the wealthiest and most aristocratic congregation in the Free Church), announced at the close that the Young Men's Association, in connection with which the course had been delivered, proposed during the winter to have the subject of "Church and State" frequently before them. The whole event is a suggestive one. It is clear that the movement for disestablishment has gone deeper than many think, or it would never have brought to the front so prominently the author of "The Law of Creed," and, above all, one who is both a peer of the realm, and the head of one of our highest courts of justice.

It is natural that Lord Hartington's utterances here should be criticised with severity by those who delight to sign themselves, in letters to the newspapers, "Old Liberals." "Old Liberals" are what are called in Scotland Parliament House Whigs. They have some sense of political justice, and they will easily be brought to agree to the extension of the franchise to counties. But they have little interest in churches, and are inclined to think the talk about spiritual freedom and the rights of conscience as fanaticism or hypocrisy, and even worse. Any little thing these gentlemen do in religion, they do in connection with the Established Church; and as the tolls there are not exacting, and not much is ever said of a disquieting nature, they are very angry with those who propose to include disestablishment in the Liberal programme of the future. As to the Duke of Argyll, the less he says the better. Six days before the Disruption, he wrote to Dr. Chalmers a letter, which anybody who likes to look for will find in Dr. Hanna's biography, and which encouraged the men of 1843 to make the sacrifices they did for independence. The Disruption came and the Duke himself dence. The Disruption came, and the Duke himself was not found equal to the occasion. That is not forgotten yet, nor is it likely to be. But that is not the only thing which has made Scotchmen distrust his grace. The Patronage Act was his work to a great extent. From no one did the Duke of Richmond receive so much support in carrying it with a rush through the House of Lords. And it was he who, when he failed to "dish" the Free Church, went out of his way to insult the late Dr. Buchanan by accusing him of disingenuousness. In the duke's opinion, the Act was sufficient to satisfy all the Free Church's claims; and when the leaders intimated that they did not agree with him, he more than insinuated that they knew he was right, and concealed their convictions with a view to deceive the people. It would be absurd to say that the duke supported the Patronage Act because he believed it to be a Tory measure. But nobody who is in any measure acquainted with Scotland can doubt for a moment that it drew its support from exclusively two classes—(1) those who were partisans of the Esta-blishment for its own sake—e.g., Sir Robert Anstruther; and (2) those who, as politicians, did not care what was done with the Church, but who were very anxious, whatever happened, to break down the Liberal Scottish majority. It would be a very wonderful thing indeed if, in these circumnces, Nonconformists were to be in love with the Act. Whatever may be its intrinsic merits, it can never be looked upon by them as anything else than a symbol of insult and injustice, and but for it I am very certain the Free Church would not be moving with its present unanimity in the direction of disestablishment. I say nothing about what ought to be the cry when an appeal to the country takes place. We shall be best able to judge of that when the time comes, and even then local circumstances must often be left to determine what is the wisest course of action. But it is plain that the ball has been set a rolling, and it will only get to the foot of the hill when the level of ecclesiastical equality has been reached. The deputation

this week in Edinburgh and Glasgow. I hope to be present at the former, and will send you my impressions after it is over.

One of the Glasgow heresy trials has resulted in a virtual verdict of acquittal. Dr. Marcus Dods was accused of teaching, in a published sermon, a doctrine of inspiration which struck at the authority of Holy Scripture. A committee was appointed to sit upon the matter, and it reported by a considerable majority in favour of a sentence which, while it by no means cleared Dr. Dods of all blameworthiness, yet declared him to have done nothing for which he could properly be libelled. This report the Presbytery, after a debate of two days, adopted—but only by a majority of three on a vote of 104. Curious to say, the minority is largely made up of laymen. The ministers and elders (lay) sit in the Presbytery in equal proportion, and if the clergy had been left alone to decide the case, the result would have been a much more decisive judgment for Dr. Dods. What this may portend remains to be seen.

I mentioned in my last that a movement had commenced to secure some change in the relation of the Universities to the teaching of theology. An interesting contribution towards the enlightenment of the public mind on that subject has since been made by Professor Flint, of Edinburgh. In opening his class (that of divinity) in the college the other day he frankly expressed his dissatisfaction with the existing state of matters—admitted that the New College of Edinburgh (one of the theological seminaries of the Free Church) is better furnished than the University itself—and argued that in the interest of Biblical science, an effort should be made to combine the resources of all the churches. That is another straw. You will see from it that things have not yet settled down there into their permanent shape, but all that is happening around us is promising (or foreboding) important organic changes.

"I have some reason to believe," says a correspondent of a contemporary, "that Dean Stanley, not satisfied with the deliverances of Lord Hartington, the Duke of Argyll, the Earl of Minto, and others, on the Scotch Disestablishment question, will shortly publish his opinions in the form either of a magazine article or of a small pamphlet, and that they will be to the effect that the Church in the Highlands should be disestablished and disendowed, and that a royal commission should be appointed at once to inquire generally into the circumstances of Scotch churches."

MR. W. H. GLADSTONE, M.P., ON ECCLESIASTICAL QUESTIONS.

In addressing his constituents last Wednesday at Whitby (who passed a cordial vote of confidence), Mr. W. H. Gladstone, referring to the burials question, said:—

burials question, said:—

The time had not yet come when the Dissenter could be buried in the parish churchyard with the rites of his own communion; but last session a long stride was made towards it, and it was remarkable that we owed that long stride, not to the House of Commons, but to that which was usually considered the stronghold of the Cooservative party, namely, the House of Lords. (Applause.) He thought this showed that considerations of equity were likely to have more free course in the independent Chamber than they had among the momers of the lower legislature, who were so often hampered by parties and declarations. (Hear, hear.) On this question, he apprehended that they should next session have something very like a surrender also. (Applause) He knew this was still opposed very keenly by the clergy of the Established Church. They naturally looked upon themselves as the masters of their churches, and it was not unnatural that they should look upon the churchyards as in the same category as the other. He was glad to think that a more liberal way of looking at the question was gaining ground, and he thought that some of the bishops were leading the way. He was glad to see the other day that at a meeting of Churchmen, at which the Bishop of Manchester was present, a paper was read by a very zealous chairman, twitting fourteen of the bishops for having been absent from the division on the churchyard question. He thought that it was a very fine thing that the Bishop of Manchester at once said that he had been obliged to be absent in the country, but that had he been present he should have voted in favour of Lord Harrowby's resolution—("Hear, hear," and applause)—and he (Mr. Gladstone) thought it would be a great mistake if the clergy persisted in their opposition to this measure. He did not think that concession on their part would at all weaken the Church; on the contrary, he thought it would perhaps strengthen the Church, and would certainly remove what must always be a subject of heartburning and a s

With regard to the question of discstablishment, Mr. Gladstone said he thought it was quite clear that this must first arise with reference to the Church of Scotland:—

The Church of Scotland was an anomaly such as he supposed was hardly to be found elsewhere in the world. If they went to a Scotch village they would find two or three churches there. Every one of them was exactly the same—the service and everything about it. The only difference was that one of the three enjoyed the patronage of the State. Well, he did not believe that in an age like this, when all institutions had to give a good account of themselves, it they were to exist, that such an anomaly as that could ever endure for long—(applause)—and when the people of Scotland had made up their minds about it, he did not think there would be much hanging back on the part of the Liberals in disestablishing the Church of Scotland.

(Applause.) In England, no doubt, the case stood upon a different footing. In England there was no rival body that could confront the Church of England, and challenge its existence as an establishment. At the same time he by no means ventured to predict a very long life for the Established Church of England—(applause) -but he thought when the time came for its disestabut he thought when the time came for its disestablishment the prime cause would be from within, and not from without. (Applause.) It seemed to him that if on the one hand matters went to an extreme of licence, or if on the other hand the State arrogated to itself the entire domination over the Church, either of these events would, he believed, be certain to lead to its rending asunder and to its disestablishment, (Applause.) But the question was not a prominent one at

> FREEDOM IN THE CHURCH. (From the Leeds Mercury.)

The one scheme of reform which the estimable Bishop of Carlisle put before the Leeds Church Institute last Monday evening with such modesty, was almost identical with one of the "suggestions which his right reverend brother of Manchester had brushed aside with such good-humoured contempt. But Dr. Goodwin's scheme has no chance of acceptance with others besides Dr. Fraser. One of the present cries for reform relates to the position of the laity in the Church of England, and demands for them a greater share in originating alterations in the rules and canons than they have at present, and the bishop's scheme, whilst not providing for this, evidently contemplates diminished "inter-ference" on the part of Parliament, that is, of the existing lay government of the Church. Now, we are not sure that we should have ventured to make these remarks, so great is our desire not unduly to "interfere," but that the bishop, in almost the next sentence, insists that, even though their position towards the State was "a difficult and galling ' and should prove impossible of amelioration, they must "not give ear to any proposal to break the connection which at present bound them to the State." Thus Dr. Goodwin insists that we shall all, Conformists or Nonconformists, remain members of the English Church, and if members we must accept the responsibilities of our membership. It is our duty, therefore, as lay members of the Church of England, to tell Dr. Goodwin that, so long as this State connection lasts, the Parliament of England will not abate one iota of its prerogatives in this matter, and that though it consists of Jews, Quakers, Roman Catholics, Infidels, Independents, and all varieties of religious thought and opinion, the rubrics and canons of the Church of England, as by law established for the upholding of the Protestant faith, will not merely have to lie upon the table of the House "for one month or two months," but will have to be the subject of debate and decision. This is the position which the Rev. Dr. Mellor put before his audience on fuesday evening with an unmistakable clearness which is so often wanting in the discussion of this question. It is also just the position that the Bishop of Carlisle and his fellow advocates are continually fret-ting against, and we do not wonder. We most heartily and respectfully commiserate them. But they will do us the justice to admit that it is not of our choosing, but of their own. There is but one possible alternative to it, and that they per-sistently refuse.

THE CONFESSIONAL.

A public meeting on the subject of the confessional was held on Tuesday evening in the Temperance Hall, Leicester. Mr. Newdegate, M.P., occupied the chair. A memorial to the bishop was passed, stating that the practice of auricular sacramental confession was increasing in that town, and urging his lordship to use such means as might in his judgment seem desirable to allay the anxiety which was felt amongst the inhabitants on this

The Rev. G. Blake Concanen, organising secretary, has been on a lecture tour during the present week in Dorsetshire on behalf of the Church Association, and auricular confession has been the chief theme discussed. Admiral Sir James Sulivan, K.C.B., attended the Poole meeting, and said that at Bournemouth confession was carried on to a great extent, even in a church which did not profess to go to the full length of Ritualism. A "vile" book, "On Repentance," written by Canon Carter, of Clewer, had been put into the hands of a female servant of Bournemouth by a clergyman who was preparing her for confirmation. He now repeated what he had said at three previous meetings—that if any male protector of a girl found that such a book had been put into her hands by either a clergyman or a layman, he would be justified in thrashing him within an inch of his life. A clergyman not connected with the church to which he referred attended there in order to read the Burial Service over a deceased lady, and he was unable to enter the vestry to put on his surplice because the curate was nearing the confession of a young woman. A man at the door stated that he dared not open it to any one until the curate gave him permission to do so. Fifty or sixty persons with himself (Sir James Sulivan), waited upon the Bishop of Winchester, who said the practices in question were contrary to the doctrine of the Church of England and to the opinion of the bishops, adding he did not think there were more than six clergymen in the whole diocese who adopted such practices. He (Sir James) replied there were six in the immediate neighbourhood of Bournemouth,

and the bishop rejoined he could only take action after proper inquiry and proof.

THE DISESTABLISHMENT MOVEMENT.

Notwithstanding the concentration of attention upon foreign affairs, the Liberation Society has during the last month held a series of meetings, not without parallel in its history, but significant of the fact that there is one question-and it is only one—the discussion of which will command audiences, and frequently large audiences, in any part of the kingdom. During the last month Ill meetings were held, most of which were reported in our columns-all, in fact, concerning which information was sent to us. these nine were held in the metropolis; twentyfive in Yorkshire and the North; twenty in Lancashire; nine in the Midland Counties; eighteen in Lincolnshire and Hunts; twenty-seven in the Western Counties, and five in Southern Counties. All such figures do not, of course, represent equal moral power. The meetings at Bradford and Warrington were of the highest public influence. They were reported throughout the local press. So are some other meetings. One held at Westonsuper-Mare, when the Rev. E. S. Prout, M.A., gave an address, fills a whole page, containing six columns of the Weston Gazette. Another, addressed by the Rev. J. M'Dougall, of Darwen, in the North, is equally well reported. The village meetings-most important of their kind, are also well noticed by the local press. There was a time when it was impossible to get such a notice inserted anywhere, and it is one of the most significant signs of the advance of the disestablishment movement that, now, the local press is ready to devote not merely paragraphs, but whole pages, to the reports of meetings. Since our last the following have come to hand :-

THE METROPOLIS.

FINSBURY.—On Wednesday evening, Nov. 28, a conference of the friends of religious equality was held in the Myddelton Hall, Islington, the object being to re-establish the council which formerly existed in the borough of Finsbury. The chair was taken by Henry Spicer, Esq., and the attendance was of a very representative character. Mr. J. Carvell Williams and Mr. J. B. Firth attended as a deputation from the Liberation Society. The Chairman said there could be no doubt that the question was fast ripening, and it might come upon them in the end quickly. Upon their wing of the Liberal party depended when that end would be. Another question was the money. All were agreed now that disendowment must accompany disestablishment; and that being so, they must be prepared to watch narrowly how the money was distributed. Bearing in mind these things, they were anxious that Finsbury should have a voice in the matter. There could be no doubt that Finsbury was Liberal to the backbone, but it was sadly wanting in organisation. Mr. Carvell Williams then gave a brief address, in which he described the present position of the question, its encouragements, and its dangers. He then referred to the kind of work now required to be done, and insisted on the need of attending to electoral affairs while candidates were being chosen, instead of waiting until, possibly, mischief had been done by the selection of bad candidates. Dealing with the representation of the metropolis, he analysed the present state of the representation in regard to disestablishment, and pointed at what, he thought, ought to be effected at the next election. As one who resided in Finsbury, and fought the battles of Liberalism when its representatives were both thorough-going men, he had a special interest in wishing to see accomplished the object for which the conference had been convened. Mr. Firth, referre organisation and consolidation now going on in the borough of Chelses, expressing his great hopes of its future, and urged similar work in Finsbury. Reviewing the progress of the question of disesta-blishment, Mr. Firth pointed to the recent declaration of Lord Hartington as an evidence of the growth of the question; also to the speech of the Bishop of Grahamstown at the recent Church congress. Mr. F. H. L. Collins then proposed a resolution for the appointment of a Finsbury Council of the Liberation Society. Mr. E. C. Jukes, in seconding it, made some valuable remarks and suggestions as to the future working of the council. Messrs. Mote, Rowlands and Ablett supported, and the resolution was carried unanimously. Another resolution was carried, appointing and affirming the constitution of the council, and an executive committee having been appointed, the proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the deputation and the chairman.

PIMLICO. - A public meeting was held on Monday night at the Pimlico Room to discuss and pass resolutions in favour of the disestablishment and disendowment of the Church of England. The chair

Mr. Lyulph Stanley moved the following resolu-

That, in the opinion of this meeting, the disestablish. ment of the Church would greatly promote the social, political, and religious welfare of the nation.

Remarking upon the smallness of the numbers present as compared with the last meeting he had attended in that hall upon the occasion of the late Mr. Mill's candidature for Westminster, he said that, though they were not personally very numerous, he was not afraid to say that many of them in middle age would see the time when the purpose for which they had met would take effect. There was something stronger on their side than mere numbers, or influence, or social position, or anti-quity of possession. He thought they had on their side that moving spirit of the time that moved all, even though reluctantly, along with it, and would force them in the end to fall in with it. There was no doubt that many of them advocated disestablishment for different reasons and on various grounds. He did not mind saying that he wanted it principally as a politician, not merely in the interest of the Church, but in the interest of the State, because he saw that in the complicated problems of human life with which the State had to deal, it was hampered in dealing with and promoting useful legislation by the fear that the vested interests of the Church would be endangered. He thought it was almost time to change the title of the society, and call it a Society for the Libera-tion of the State from Church Patronage and Control. The resolution was seconded by Mr. Calder, and carried with but one or two dissen-tients. Mr. Firth moved the following resolution :-

That in the disendowment of the English Church it is essential that the just claims of the nation should be regarded as of paramount importance, and that while every legal interest should be liberally compensated, the mistakes of the Irish Church settlement should be

He said that of one thing he was quite sure, and that was that the lessons of the Irish Church compensation would not be lost sight of in the future. Probably the true principle of dealing with the compensation question in the future would be that the State should deal with the ministers of the Church as if they were the servants of the State, as they practically were, and should compensate them upon the same principles as those that would apply to their servants leaving any branch of the civil service. The resolution, which was seconded by Mr. G. Mitchell, was carried, and the meeting separated with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

ISLEWORTH. -On Friday, Nov. 30, Mr. George Kearley delivered a lecture in the Worton-lane British Schoolrooms, on "The Church Property Question," Mr. G. F. Whiteley, J.P., of Twickenham, in the chair. There was a fair attendance, and a local clergyman added considerably to the interest of the meeting by some singularly ineffective criticisms on the lecture. The Rev. G.
Ingram, of Richmond, the Rev. E. Price, of
Hounslow, Mr. J. Clark and C. J. Cross, of Brentford, and the Rev. J. D. Kilburn also addressed the meeting, which closed with cordial votes of

THE REV. DR. MELLOR AT LEEDS.

Under the auspices of the Leeds Nonconformist Union, the Rev. Dr. Mellor delivered his lecture, "Why Meddle? or, the right of Nonconformists to discuss the Established Church," last Wednesday, in Albert Hall, which was crowded. Mr. W. H. Conyers occupied the chair. The lecture was received with very great favour, and at the close the rev. doctor was cordially cheered. The Rev. W. Thomas having moved and Mr. Slater seconded a vote of thanks, Dr. Mellor, in replying, said it was a painful thing to him to have assumed an attitude of antagonism to any of his fellow citizens, but he had taken the sword out of its scabbard, and he would not return it for many days to come. (Applause.)
To him it was the most serious moral phenomena of our time that there could have been a Church Congress, held under the presidency of the Primate of all England, in which, by distinct purpose and plan, every burning question was to be excluded in order that there might appear a fictitious unanimity, when underneath the surface there were hundreds of men who would have panted for the fray, if only they had dared to have spoken beyond the purpose of the Cougress. It that was honour, if that was manliness, if that could inspire in a people like the English records respect for such congresses. English people respect for such congresses, then they had sank very low indeed. (Applause.)

MR. P. RYLANDS, M.P., ON DISESTABLISHMENT.

On Monday night Dr. Mellor repeated his lecture in the Public Hall, Warrington. Mr. Rylands, M.P., occupied the chair, and was supported by several influential local Liberals. In the course of his opening speech, he said the question was, What was to be the next political storm?

Anyone looking at the currents of public opinion, which blew in various directions, would find that in the Church itself there were a number of different currents, some of them clashing with each other, and others going with great force in various directions. They would also find outside the Church considerable currents of public opinion; and in addition to that they had a certain electric and in addition to that, they had a certain electric state of the political atmosphere in reference to Church questions. That electricity was called ferth sometimes by the most trivial circumstances. Some very insigni-ficant matter became a conductor of the electric fluid, and all of a sudden the country was startled by a shock

and an explosion. Sometimes it was a gravestone that the clergyman refused to put "reverend" upon, somethe clergyman refused to put "reverend" upon, some-times it was a question, a most serious question, whether a man should dress himself in a cope or chasuble, at another time whether a reverend gentleman should turn to the east or the north; but in no case, however simple a matter, but it at once lead to a great outbreak of political and ecclesiastical controvers, and most than of political and ecclesiastical controversy, and great attention was necessarily called on the part of the public to Church questions. It seemed to him, as the result of what he had just ventured to describe, that the next great storm that would burst would be in connection with the State Establishment rith the State Establishment of the Christian religion. He (the chairman) was not a member of the Liberation Society, and he stood upon that platform as representing another line of opinion on the great question that was to be brought before them. As a member of the Church of England he wanted disestablishment for the ose of increasing the efficiency and extending the usefulness of the episcopal body to which he belonged. He was quite aware that when he had said that some of his Conservative friends might retort that he called himself a Churchman, but that he carried into the Church the Nonconformist sympathies in which he was educated — that was perfectly true, but there were many Churchmen of the pure stamp without any adulte-ration whatever, who, if he might judge from diocesan conferences, were getting extremely dissatisfied with the present position in which they were placed as members of the Church of England. They were, in fact, beginning to feel that the bondage of the fetters of the State, although they were golden fetters, were cramping their muscular powers and paralysing their exertions. But how were they exchange paralysing their exertions. But how were they seeking to meet the difficulty? Not by breaking the fetters and setting their limbs free, but by melting the golden bands and by appropriating the gold, and at the same time claiming their freedom. Churchmen, as represented in the Diocesan Conference, seemed to want all the benefits of a Church Establishment, of a State Church, and all the freedom of an independent seet. the benefits of a Church Establishment, of a State Church, and all the freedom of an independent sect. That was what they were claiming. He was willing to admit that the clergy and members of the Church had good ground for complaining, and they had a right to wish for considerable changes in Church legislation and in Church administration, and also in the arrangement. in Church administration, and also in the arrangement with regard to Convocation, and to ecclesiastical courts for the trial of their own causes. It was perfectly true that the House of Commons might not be fit to deal with those questions, but so long as there was a State-Church they must submit to this legislation. A clergyman said at the Manchester Diocesan Conference that man said at the Manchester Diocesan Conference that they must not indulge in dreaming clerical dreams. Weil, any delusion they might entertain that the House of Commons would give up the management of the Church so long as it was a State-Church was a delusion. The House of Commons would never be recreant to its duty to that extent so long as the Church was a State-Church. The laymen represented in Parliement would take care to tie it tight, so that every man who was a State official and a State servant should be kept to the law within the narrow limits of should be kept to the law within the narrow limits of State control. That was what he must agree to do if he was receiving wages of the State, but he trusted the time would soon come when, under the efforts of those within the Church, as well as those outside, they might realise the great blessing of seeing religion for ever dissociated from State trammels. (Applause.) Dr. Mellor then delivered his lecture.

MR. FISHER IN THE MIDLAND COUNTIES.

LONGFORD, WARWICKSHIRE. -On Monday evening. Nov. 26, a large company came together, in spite of wind and heavy rain, to the schoolroom of the Baptist chapel to hear Mr. Fisher on "The Right of the Nation to deal with its Ecclesiastical Endowments." Mr. J. Wyles, F.S.A., principal of Allesley Park College, presided. Votes of thanks

were unanimously passed.

Rotton Park Ward, Birmingham.—In Clarkstreet Board School on Tuesday, Nov. 27, Mr.
Fisher lectured to a very respectable meeting on "The Nation's Rights in relation to Ecclesiastical Endowments." Alderman Collings, who presided, spoke at some length in favour of the Liberation Society's principles and operations. There is a good report in the Birmingham Daily Post of this

meeting.
WALSALL.-Mr. Fisher lectured in the Temperance Hall on Wednesday, Nov. 28, taking as his subject "Disestablishment in Ireland; an Example and a Warning." The history of the Irish Church was passed in review, and the expediency, justice, and hteousness of disestablishment dwelt upon, with illustrations of the advantages already accruing to the Irish people. Passing from the Irish to the English and Scotch Churches, it was contended that these, as State Establishments, are out of accord with the spirit of the age. Mr. W. Kirkpatrick presided, and Mr. Hastings afterwards spoke briefly.

MR. J. M. CAMP IN CORNWALL.

St. Ives.—OnNov. 27 Mr. Camp visited this town, and addressed a numerous audience in the Town Hall, on the "State Church, a Monument of Religious Inequality, Established and Endowed by Law"; W. Williams, Esq., occupying the chair. The attention of the meeting was well sustained, and a resolution in favour of the principles advocated was moved by the Rev. W. Foale, the Countess of Huntingdon's minister, seconded by Alderman J. M. Kernick, and supported by the Rev. W. Hughes, Methodist New Connexion, and carried with one dissolution. dissentient. A lively discussion ensued.

LEWANNICK, NEAR LAUNCESTON.—This village was visited by Mr. Camp, and as the rain was falling incessantly, many persons assembled in the Wesleyan Schoolroom. Mr. Wenle, a large landed proprietor, took the chair. The subject of the lecture was, "Disestablishment, what we mean by it and why we wish it." The lecture was listened to with the greatest interest and enthusiasm. At the close a resolution was moved by R. Peters,

Esq., and seconded by Mr. Turner, and carried. This was a first meeting, and at the close the lecturer was besieged by gentlemen from the district, asking for lectures.

MOUSEHOLE.—A correspondent writes:—"A lecture on 'The English State-Church' was given on the 24th inst at the fishing town of Mousehole, near Penzance, by the Rev. J. Manley Camp, of the Liberation Society, who was warmly welcomed, and riveted the attention of a numerous audience and riveted the attention of a numerous audience for an hour and a half on some of the most salient points of the Liberation programme, interspersed with many quaint anecdotes and illustrations, which told amazingly. At the conclusion of the lecture discussion was invited. After a little pause, with expectation on the tiptoe, a voice—we might say a representative voice of the town—exclaimed, "We, Mr. Lecturer, are unanimously of your way of thinking." I may add that the people of this neighbourhood, who are mainly Nonconformists, are gradually awakening to the evils of a State-

THE NORTH.

MEDOMSLEY. - The Newcastle Chronicle of Nov. 29 reports a meeting held here on Tuesday of last week, and addressed by the Rev. J. Browne, B.A., of Bradford. The lecture was in reply to one by Mr. Reed, of the Church Defence Association. The meeting carried a vote for disestablishment, moved by Mr. Weddle and seconded by Mr. Armstrong, with acclamation.

ROTHBURY.—Here, on Wednesday last, Mr. Browne lectured to a good audiance in the Assembly.

Browne lectured to a good audience in the Assembly Rooms. Mr. H. B. S. Thompson took the chair. A unanimous vote was passed, notwithstanding that, as we are informed, the bills of the Liberation

Society were generally destroyed and defaced.

NEW SHILDON. — Here, on Thursday, the
Mechanics' Hall was crowded by a mixed audience of Churchmen and Nonconformists, and very soon there were signs of disorderly behaviour. Mr. Thompson was in the chair, and dealt firmly with the audience, who allowed Mr. Browne, but with many interruptions, to go on with his lecture. There was some more interruption at the close, but a disestablishment resolution, says the Newcastle Chronicle, was eventually carried with much enthusiasm.

SHILDON. -Shildon and New Shildon are different places, for another report respecting Shildon has reached us—this time from the Auckland Chronicle of Friday last. There seems to have been great excitement in this place. The Mechanics' Hall was "a perfect cram," and many had to leave without being able to enter. Mr. Thompson presided. Mr. Browne spoke. The local report says:—"The Church was represented by a very strong body at Mr. Browne spoke. The local report says:—"The Church was represented by a very strong body at the meeting, and on several occasions the excitement ran very high. Cheers, counter cheers, hisses, applause, and questions emanated from the large audience in thick profusion. The lecturer, Mr. Browne, of Bradford, was, however, accorded a very fair hearing, and laid before the meeting a most able and damaging catalogue of evils and most able and damaging catalogue of evils and anomalies connected with the Church. The lecturer was enthusiastically applauded. A hot dis-cussion followed, but a disestablishment resolution was carried, although amidst great excitement."

YORKSHIRE.

STOKESLEY. -On Nov. 27 a meeting was held in the Town Hall, when earnest addresses on the present aspects of the disestablishment question w given by the Rev. E. H. Reynolds. of Ayton (the chairman), the Rev. J. Parnaby, of Middlesbrough, and Mr. J. Andrew, of Leeds. There was a good attendance, and a cordial vote of thanks was moved by Mr. G. M. Tweddell, and seconded by Mr. Thomas Tweddell.

SOUTH STOCKTON.—On Nov. 29 a meeting was held in the Temperance Hall. The Rev. D. Oliver Edwards presided. The Rev. J. Parnaby gave some forcible reasons for disestablishment, and why Liberationists should spare no efforts to enlighten and strengthen public opinion on this great question. Mr. J. Andrew then gave a rapid sketch of the history and work of the Liberation Society. The Rev. J. O. Wills, late of Cupar Fife, Scotland, now of North Stockton, gave an excellent address in proposing a vote of thanks, which was seconded by Dr. Laidler.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

DESFORD. LEICESTERSHIRE. -On Monday, Nov. 26, the Rev. E. Hipwood lectured in the Baptist Chapel, the Rev. J. Greenwood in the chair. There was drenching wet, and a dark night, but an enthusiastic audience, and pressing request for another visit when the weather should be more settled.

Mr. Gordon, -Mr. Gordon, although he seemed to fail again, rallied sufficiently to leave home, a week ago, by easy stages, for Dr. Munro's, Cluny Hill, Forres, N.B., his present address. He reports a decided improvement, and hopes it will hold out. He begs to thanks his many correspon-

A CASE FOR DISESTABLISHMENT.—At a meeting held last week at Tain, Scotland, the heritors assessed themselves for the repair and alteration of the parish church and manse in a sum of 720l. Of this sum the heritors belonging to the Establishment contribute 12%, leaving a balance of 708% to be made up by those who have no interest in, nor

derive any benefit from, the church for which it is

payable.
THE WOLVERHAMPTON RITUAL CASE.—The THE WOLVERHAMPTON RITUAL CASE.—The Archbishop of Canterbury has declined to sanction further proceedings in what is known as the Wolverhampton ritual case. A prosecution was begun last year under the Public Worship Regulation Act against the Rev. C. Bodington, vicar of St. Andrew's, Wolverhampton, for alleged illegal ritual practices, but the proceedings broke down before Lord Penzance on a technical point. The complainants, against the desire of the bishop, insisted on commencing a fresh prosecution against Mr. Bodington; but the Archbishop of Canterbury refuses to sanction further proceedings because he refuses to sanction further proceedings because he understands that Mr. Bodington is ready loyally to submit himself to the direction and order of the

bishop of the diocese.

THE ARCHBISHOP OF YORK ON THE BURIALS QUESTION AND DISESTABLISHMENT.—The Archbishop of York on Friday held his triennial visitation at Sheffield, and afterwards addressed the clergy in private. His Grace, in reference to Ritualism and the Public Worship Regulation Act. remarked emphatically that unless the clergy could be got to work together they would themselves disestablish the Church. He strongly approved of the settlement of the churchyard ques-tion by the adoption of the Earl of Harrowby's proposals, and counselled the clergy to sup-port them with all their might. He re-marked that the union of Church and State greatly depended upon such questions being speedily set at rest. He would certainly resist disestablishment, but he would resist it through the church and not through the churchyard.

THE GOVERNMENT AND THE BURIALS QUESTION. THE GOVERNMENT AND THE BURIALS QUESTION.

The London correspondent of the Manchester Guardian remarks:—"The Government are being strongly urged by a large and influential section of their party to take up the burials question on the line of Lord Harrowby's resolution. Lord Beaconsfield, the Lord Chancellor, and, in fact, a majority of the Cabinet as to numbers, have long been ready to sattle this subject. They rightly see the danger to settle this subject. They rightly see the danger that is likely to arise, if the question be left open till the Liberals can deal with it, of the Church being deprived of the graveyards, just as some years ago in somewhat similar circumstances she was deprived of some of her law courts. Lord Salisbury and Mr. Hardy are the chief obstacles to legislation, but an understanding seems to prevail that their opposition will not be persisted in."

BISHOP BENSON AND THE NONCONFORMISTS OF CORN. WALL, -The Penzance Nonconformist Committee on Thursday discussed the Bishop of Truro's recent address at the Diocesan Conference, and passed a resolution expressing the conviction of the committee that although the words used by Mr. Bright in his speech, "to contend with and, if possible, to suppress Dissent in the county," were not used by the bishop, yet that it was impossible to interpret the whole spirit and purpose of the bishop's speech otherwise than as an exhortation to members of the Establishment present at the conference to organise themselves to contend with, and, if possible, sup-press Dissent in the county. The resolution adds that, as the bishop did not expressly or implicitly deny the wish and intention expressed in the words the use of which he denied, his explanation was a mere evasion, and no answer to the charge made against him by Mr. Bright. It was resolved to send a copy of the resolution to Mr. Bright and the bishop.

ANOTHER BURIAL SCANDAL. - The illegitimate ANOTHER BURIAL SCANDAL.—The illegitimate infant child of a farm-servant girl died at Audlem, in Cheshire, somewhat suddenly last week, and in due course an inquest was held by the county coroner, and a verdict of "Accidental death from suffocation" was returned in the early part of the week. The mother presented herself with the proper fees to the Rev. A. Atkinson, to arrange for the funeral, but to her great grief and astonishment he positively refused to bury the child on any consideration, because it had not been baptized. The mother distracted, applied to one and then another mother, distracted, applied to one and then another to assist her to bury her child in the unconsecrated rtion of the cemetery with some sort of ceremony, but was unable to get any competent person to read the service. She then got a hole dug in the cemetery, and at night, when it was pitch dark and raining, she and some friends took her baby to the hole, and dropped it in, as she explained, "like a dog," without the slightest semblance of a burial service. The greatest excitement and indignation exists at Audlem, which is a little Cheshire village.

THE CHURCH AND BOARD SCHOOLS. - We are informed that with a view to assist pupil-teachers in board schools who are members of the Church of England in their preparation for admission to Church training colleges, the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge is endeavouring to form classes for the instruction of pupil-teachers in the Church Catechism and other distinctively Church teaching which cannot be given in board schools. One such class has been already formed, with an average attendance of upwards of thirty. The society is also largely helping to found a new training college in the neighbourhood of London for the admission of London pupil-teachers and others. To this work the society has contributed 10,000%. We hear, too, that a movement is on 10,000%. We hear, too, that a movement is on foot, under the sanction of the bishop, for giving religious instruction to pupil-teachers and children who attend board schools. The plan is to gather

RITUALIST GRIEVANCES. - A clergyman states in Friday's Standard that he was recently appointed to a curacy, and appeared before the Bishop of — with the proper credentials, but as he was asked whether he was a member of the Holy Cross (Priest in Absolution) Society, and refused to answer, the bishop declined to license him. The Rev. Dr. Lee, of All Saints, Lambeth, informs the same paper that the Metropolitan Board of Works threaten to issue a distress warrant against him for same paper that the Metropolitan Board of Works threaten to issue a distress warrant against him for 105*l*., for the repair of the spire of his parish church, and that he will be forced to pay that amount, although the living is worth only 200*l*. a year, there are no pew-rents or churchwardens, and the yearly offertory does not amount to 100*l*. To this another correspondent remarks that Dr. Lee, through his extravagant Ritualism, has reduced a congregation of over a thousand to about fifty or sixty, chiefly women and children, and hints that if the vicar would extinguish the ninety-six candles he burns around his "altar," and do away with his cross-bearer, incense-bearers, acolytes, and so forth, there would be no difficulty in defraying the expenses of the church.

MR. MACKONOCHIE AND THE BISHOP OF LONDON. The publication of the correspondence between the Bishop of London and the Rev. A. H. Mackonochie respecting the picture of the Virgin Mary and the crucifix in St. Alban's, Holborn, a large congregation to that church on ay. The picture, the flowers, and candles (unlighted), and the crucifix were in their usual positions. There was a low celebration, or "mass," positions. There was a low celebration, or "mass, as the service was termed from the pulpit. The Rev. A. H. Stanton, who preached, incidentally referred to the threatened prosecution of Mr. Mackenochie by the Bishop of London, saying that it was the beginning of the Christian year, and they were entering it under a new persecution. With the gaudy and coarse picture of the Virgin Mary which the bishop has condemned facing him as he which the bishop has condemned facing him as he spoke, Mr. Stanton referred to the belief of the congregation in the "Mother of God" as an important element in their creed, and he amounced that on Sunday next the feast of the Conception of the Virgin would be observed as a guild festival, and that the "Mass" at nine o'clock would be "for the intention of the guild."

THE PRIMATE AND THE PUBLIC WORSHIP ACT. The Archbishop of Canterbury seems to be much annoyed at the statement of the judges of the Queen's Bench that the Public Worship Act created a new jurisdiction, and that the judgments under that Act are not ordinary judgments of the Dean of the Arches. He has sent to the papers a memorandum—rather hastily drawn up, and containing several technical errors—to prove that the declarations of the judges as to the "new jurisdiction" conferred by the Public Worship Act are to be regarded as "obiter dicta," and not as declaring the law on the issue really before the court. Nothing contained in the memorandum, however, throws the slightest doubt on the unquestionable fact that there is no proper ecclesiastical jurisdiction at all exercised by anybody in relation to proceedings taken under the Public Worship Act, though it is undoubtedly the Dean of the Arches who hears the proceedings under that Act. Dr. Tait's memorandum completely fails to prove that the clergy, in submitting to the judgment of Lord Penzance when given under the Public Worship Act, are submitting to an ecclesiastical court, or indeed doing anything which they are required to do by their canonical obligations.—Spectator.

ECCLESIASTICAL MATTERS AT WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—The committee of the local Church Insti-MARE.—The committee of the local Church Institute recently engaged Mr. George Harwood, M.A., to lecture on "Some reasons why the Church of England is worth preserving"; the four reasons principally urged by Mr. Harwood being that the Establishment costs no one anything against his will; that disestablishment would be unjust to Churchmen, and therefore an infringement of religious equality; that it would degrade the Church; and that it would also degrade the State. To this lecture of Mr. Harwood's the Rev. E.S. Prout, M.A., Congregational minister of Bridgwater, has since delivered an able and effective reply. The chair was taken by E. D. Girdlestone, Esq., formerly a member and a clergyman of the Church of England, who was supported by the Nonconformist ministers of the town. There was a very large attendance, the Assembly Rooms being well filled by an attentive and well conducted audience, including many Churchmen. At the close of Mr. Prout's lecture, opponents were invited to speak, but no one accepted the invitation; and a resolution condemning the Establishment, especially on account of its support of Ritualism, was carried without a of its support of Athalism, was carried without a single dissentient. It is gratifying to find that Liberationist opinions are making good progress in Weston, where the Evangelical Church party have long been very numerous and influential. A curious illustration of the harmony (?) existing between the different parties in the Establishment was afforded a few weeks ago in the anishbouring was afforded a few weeks ago in the neighbouring parish of Uphill. With the view, apparently, of pleasing all parties, the High-Church rector invited the well-known Ritualist, Sir Henry Denison, and the Rev. Prebendary Stephenson, a popular Evangelical clergymao, to preach special sermons on the same Sunday. In the morning, Sir Henry Deni-son devoted his sermon to advocating baptismal regeneration, and denouncing the Reformation and Martin Luther; while, in the same pulpit in the afternoon, Prebenda y Stephenson assured the congregation that the Church of England was the great barrier against Popery on the one hand and

infidelity on the other! Another remarkable circumstance, of a somewhat kindred character, has never, we believe, been recorded in the Nonconformist, namely—that on the death, some time ago, of the Rev. Joseph Ditcher, the Evangelical incumbent of South Brent, who prosecuted his neighbour, Archdeacon Denison, for teaching the doctrine of the Real Presence, the archdeacon was

invited to preach, and did preach, his funeral sermon.—From a Correspondent. ANOTHER SCENE AT HATCHAM CHURCH.—The disturbances at St. James's, Hatcham, were renewed on Sunday. At eight o'clock there was a low celebration, the Rev. Arthur Tooth being the celebrant, assisted by the Rev. Malcolm MacColl. About 250 persons were present, and about 150 communicated. These, it is stated, had been invited by private circular. Mr. Tooth took not invited by private circular. Mr. Tooth took no further part in the services of the day. After Morning Prayer, at which it was found that during Saturday the church had been restored to something like its appearance before Mr. Tooth's prosecution, the Rev. Malcolm MacColl preached. The church was crowded. There was no disturbance during the service, except a good deal of unnecessary coughing just after Mr. MacColl entered the pulpit. As the congregation were leaving the church, however, someone exclaimed aloud that "the candles had no right to be there," meaning on or over the communion table, and a movement was made towards the entrance of the chancel. Several of the choristers attempted to prevent any intrusion, and a struggle took place, in which the iron gate was broken. The police were called in, and amid great excitement the church was cleared. A "Protestant Leaguer" named James Evenden was given into custody by Mr. Webb, one of the churchwardens. In consequence of these proceedings, there was no evening service, and a large body of police was present to prevent disorder. A large crowd assembled and remained in the street for more than an hour. At one time part of the crowd struck up the Moody and Sankey hymn, "Hold the Fort." and another hody of voices began singthe Fort," and another body of voices began sing-ing "The Church's one Foundation," the singing being mingled with groans from the opposing parties. At length the police received orders to clear the street, and the crowd dispersed. On Monday, at the Greenwich Police-court, William Evenden was charged with brawling at Hatcham Church, and damaging the chancel gates. The evidence was that at a disturbance at the morning service on Sunday, the prisoner struck at a chorister and seized the chancel gates. The case was adjourned

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for further evidence.

ST. ANDREW'S DAY AT WESTMINSTER ABBEY.

"The Day of Intercession for Missions" was celebrated on Friday in many churches of the metro-polis. At Westminster Abbey it was marked by two services, morning and afternoon, at the latter of which the Very Rev. the Dean preached, and by an "Address on Missions" in the evening by the Rev. Dr. Stoughton. Dean Stanley's afternoon sermon was founded on the sixth and seventh verses of the fourth chapter of the Book of Revelation. In the course of his discourse he said that the four living creatures described in the text had been said to symbolise the four Evangelists, and to represent their different characteristics, their divergencies were shown in their different accounts of the Saviour's life and character. These four accounts had been left to the world, and the wide differences existing in the four Gospels had had to be reconciled by the Christian mind and faith. Various had been the attempts to reduce into one the narratives of the Saviour, but the Divine Grace had been too strong to be bound by such artificial restraint, and those portions of the human race which were outside the Christian pale had no true cause of complaint as to the way in which the Gospel had been conveyed to them. He proceeded to urge that it was not the fact of actual differences much as the mismanagement of those differences. He dwelt upon the diversity of creeds, and urged that when we considered how variously constituted were men's minds, it must be seen that it was inevitable every creed must partake of the imperfect character which belonged to all human thought. No single confession of faith could lay claim to be the absolute truth or the absolute form of truth, and he pointed to the fact that the earliest Christian missionary was a bishop who held a peculiar form of faith which was now totally extinct in every part of the world. Passing from the divers and conflicting creeds, some of which had been taught by classes of Christians whose form of faith was not now known where they had first taught it, the preacher passed in review the differences of organisation; and while he claimed for the Episcopal rule in India that it had been a great benefit to Christianity in affording an unfailing supply of pastors and rulers of those whose lives were an example of their Master, yet he protested against any attempt to disparage the efforts of the societies which had done so much in our time to evangelise the heathen. Dean Stanley went on to say :-

Again, there is an analogous difference of organisa tion with which we are more familiar at home, but which must be allowed to play freely its part also in the distant countries of the world. There has been in

this country, at least since the Reformation, an acknowbelged divergence in the mode of disseminating truth which may be described, if I may use the expressive language of my brother Dean of St. Paul's, as the public and the private way. The public way is that in which the nation has taken advantage of an organisation which has come down with much continuity, although with much discontinuity, from the earliest although with much discontinuity, from the earliest times of our history, which is controlled by national laws, which is guided by national principles, which is regarded as, on the whole, the exponent of the national faith. This is the system which by various names is called the Established Church, the National Church, the Church of England. But, side by side with this, there is a way in which individuals fired with peculiar zeal, or endowed with peculiar gifts, have taken advantage of the liberty which the nation has gradually and increasingly left to those who deviate from the more public and established system, and who, partly by their town spirit and energy, partly by new organisations which they have founded, and which have themselves in the course of time become a mixture of the more public and the more private systems, have filled up the deficiencies and increased the usefulness of that larger and more comprehensive system intended to cover the whole nation.

By these two channels the flood of Christian doctrine

By these two channels the flood of Christian doctrine and civilisation has forced its way through our own On one side we see, as it were, a majestic river swollen with many tributaries bearing on its bosom stately fleets, feeding populous cities, which else would languish, fertilising large tracts which else would wither and die. On the other side we see foaming torrents penetrating through rocks which perchance nothing else could break, attracting attention by the roar of cataracts, which arouses the most heedless ear, forcing their way into devious corners which lie outside the main current of the larger stream. And what has been productive of such beneficent results at home, cannot but, we believe, be capable of like results atroad. Whenever the two systems come into contact, it is surely the duty at once of Christian wisdom and of Christian charity that each should use the other as its

best and indispensable ally.

In former times it was the temptation of the public national form of religion to repress and suppress by legislative enactments the private enthusiasm of Non-conformity. In our times it is the temptation of the Nonconforming element of religion to endeavour to repress and suppress by legislative enactments all expression of the public and national form. In either case the error was and is equally implitic, equally illiberal. Let us hope better things of the age that is coming. Let us remember both at home and abroad the speech of Abraham to Lot—"Is not the whole land before thee? If thou wilt take the left hand, then I will go to the right hand. If thou depart to the right hand, then I will go to the left hand." Let us take the same maxim and translate it into the language of the same maxim and translate it into the language of the apostle—"We will not boast in another man's line of things made ready to our hand." "Everyway, whether in pretence or in truth," whether, we may add, by a public or a private system, "Christ is preached, and I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice." "Why, when both organisations exist," so it has been pertinently asked, "why should one of the two be taken from us?" [After a statistical statement of the contributions of different communions, the Dean went on to say:—] If either the Church of Dean went on to say:—] If either the Church of England were destroyed, according to the wishes of some ardent Nonconformists, or Nonconformity absorbed, according to the wishes of some ardent Churchmen, the cause of Christian missions would grievously

In his concluding words, the preacher referred to the lecture of the evening as one following a course which had been of late years adopted on the occasion of the Intercessory services in the Abbey.

In the evening the nave was very crowded, on the occasion of the Rev. Dr. J. Stoughton giving an address on Missions. There were many well-known Congregational ministers among the audience, and the dean occupied a seat immediately below the reader of the address. The hymn, "From Green-land's icy mountains," was sung, and Dr. Stoughton at once stood at the reading-desk. He commenced by saying that the original basis of missionary work was the Divine command, and he then proceeded to dwell upon the travels of St. Paul and the missionary spirit displayed by him. The speaker then gave the characters of four modern missionaries, dwelling at length upon their personal histories—David Livingstone; John Williams, whose death at the hands of savages he likened to the death of Archbishop Alphage at the hands of the Danes; Carey, who from being a Northampton shoemaker became a learned Orientalist and missionary; and Henry Martyn, whose studies and sacrifices for the good of his fellow men and for missionary work occupied a great part of the He also dwelt upon the work which had been carried out by the various missionary societies, and in conclusion touched upon the catholic spirit displayed by the Very Rev. the Dean in his sermon of the morning. The Old Hundredth psalm was chanted, and the large congregation dispersed after the dean had pronounced the benediction.

It is stated that out of 197 students for the Methodist ministry, 161 are abstainers from in-

The Rev. James Stephens, M. A., late of Berwickon-Tweed, now of the East End Training Institute, London, has received a unanimous call from the congregation of Highgate-road Baptist Church,

London.
The Rev. Frederick J. Powicke, of Spring Hill College, Birmingham, has accepted a call to the Congregational Church worshipping in Sion Meeting House, Alnwick Northumberland, and hopes to commence his pastoral duties on the first Lord's

Day in January.
The Very Rev. Principal Tullech, of St. And: ew's University, has been nominated Moderator of the

General Assembly of the Church of Scotland for the next year, and the Rev. Dr. Andrew Bonar, Glasgow, has been nominated Moderator of the General Assembly of the Free Church.

HASTINGS.—At a bazzar held at Hastings during last week, on behalf of the building fund of the New Sunday-school and Christian Institute con-

need Sunday-school and Christian Institute connected with Robertson-street Chapel (pastor, Rev. Charles New), the sum of 1,150l. was taken.

The Defoe Memorial Fund.—We are requested to state that a fancy bazaar will be held in the Board School, Broadway, Tooting, on December 21 and 22, in aid of the Defoe Memorial Fund. The Rev. John Congreve, M.A., formerly rector of the parish, has agreed to open the bazaar, and a number of the most influential ladies in the neighbourhood have consented to be patronesses. Funds are urgently needed to enable the executive to commence the erection of the memorial next spring.

Contributions for Missions —Canon Scott Robertson's annual summary, just completed, of British contributions to sixty-nine societies which, in Great Britain and Ireland, collect funds for promoting Christian missionary work in foreign lands, shows that in the financial year 1876 7 such British contributions amounted to 1,048,4721. The general summary is as follows:—Church of England societies received 425,9264; "Omnibus" or joint societies received 156,948l.; Nonconformist societies in England and Wales received 350,771l.; Scotch and Irish Presbyterian societies received 158,3481.; and Roman Catholic societies received 6,479L; total, 1,048,472L

THE LATE REV. THOMAS BURGESS.—We regret to announce the death of the Rev. Thomas Burgess, which sad event took place at Wylye, Wilts, on the 14th ult. Mr. Burgess will be long remembered at Tamworth, the scene of his former labours, as an earnest promoter of local objects, and the builder up of the Congregational Church of which he was the pastor, but his memory will also be cherished by a wider constituency as an earnest and courageous advocate of religious liberty. He took a prominent part in the Tamworth Church rate case in 1868, and Dr. Lushington's judgment on that occasion having given an impetus to the cause generally which Mr. Burgess had at heart, the name of our departed friend acquired more than a local reputation. Tamworth missed a useful man when Mr. Burgess retired from his pastorate in that town; now the denomination with which he was identified has incurred a loss in his decease.

SPECIAL SERVICES IN THEATRES. -On Friday evening last a large party of the residents of High-gate, Hornsey, and the neighbourhood, assembled in the drawing-room of Wm. Green, Esq., of Hampstead-lane, Highgate, by whom they were invited to meet Dr. Edmond, Bishop Claughton, the Rev. Gordon Calthrop, and the Rev. Lloyd Harris, for the purpose of receiving statements relative to the special religious services in theatres, halls, and mission-rooms. The information given related chiefly to the work carried on by the committee, of which Lord Shaftesbury is chairman; the secretary, Mr. Chas. Sawell, being among those who took part in the proceedings. The primary object of the gathering was to secure support for the services at the Park Theatre, Camden Town; but many facts connected with other services were narrated. It was stated that though these services have been carried on for eighteen years, and do not attract so many people as when they were a novelty, they are still largely attended, and attended for the most part by those who do not frequent churches and chapels. Some most gratifying instances of the good effected by these and other means were related, and it was stated that in many cases those whom it is sought to benefit express high appreciation of such efforts. Some appalling facts, illustrative of the heathenish condition in which large numbers of the inhabitants of London, were stated; and the evils resulting from intemperance, and from the wretched homes of many of the labouring classes, were dwelt upon with much force and feeling. One speaker expressed a hope that these special services would not serve as an excuse for not making an effort to render the services in regular places of worship more attractive. It was also stated that there was great need for additional funds to open mission rooms in certain districts, and also for the services of more preachers and other Christian labourers; and the suggestion was made that it would be well if congregations would spare able ministers on Sunday evenings to carry on this evangelistic work, and if some of their hearers accompanied them to render assistance. A warm vote of thanks was given to Mr. and Mrs. Green for their hospitality, and for the opportunity afforded by them for diffusing information of a very interesting and stimulating kind in relation to an important movement.

THE SPECIAL MISSIONS AT PLYMOUTH, &c.—The operations of the special missions to the three towns of Plymouth, Devonport, and Stonehouse were brought to a close on Sunday week, having been continued with great earnestness and vigour throughout the week. Very great interest was, it is said, shown in the mission, not merely by Church people but also by Nonconformists, and some very successful efforts were made by out-of-door services to enlist the attention of the inhabitants of some of the lowest and most degraded localities, numbers of whom were induced by the proceedings out of doors to follow the missioners to the respective churches. The weather was anything but propitious, yet, notwithstanding this, the congregations were very large, and, as a rule, the special services for men, women, and children were very largely attended.

The Bishop of Exeter took part in the proceedings in almost every parish, and delivered special addresses to the workmen employed in the Government establishments at Devonport. While great success attended the mission, three of the churches were occupied by ultra-Ritualist clergychurches were occupied by ultra-Ritualist clergy-men. The Rev. S. Lemon, curate of St. Paul's, Devonport, has aunounced that, in conse-quence of the character of the teachings of these gentlemen, he has resigned his curacy, and asked the bishop to remove him imme-diately. On the subject of the "Popish prac-tices" at St. Paul's, the Western Daily Mercury says that the three missioners there are members says that the three missioners there are members of the English Church Union, and one is a member of the Society of the Holy Cross. The services, says our contemporary, were followed by "instructions," by which the missioners did all that they could to Romanise the people subject to their influence and to teach them destrices which should influence, and to teach them doctrines which should have had no part in the mission. What have vestments, incense, and lights to do with such message as the missioners profess to convey? If their object were to draw men from their evil ways and to induce them to repent, why was the doctine of the Real Presence a necessity to such a work? One of the missioners related his experience of a previous mission, where the people of the particular parish desired to erect a memorial to the work that was then done. With this intention they purchased a picture of the Crucifixion and placed it over the altar, where it still stood. And he went on to say, "Our altar is to be gloriously decorated, and I look forward to the time when at St. Paul's there will be lights, incense, and vestments." On another occasion the doctrine of the Real Presence was specially inculcated, and confession was not only enjoined, but a gentleman who unexpectedly went into the vestry one evening found a soldier just rising from his knees. The missioners moreover distributed a small book called "The Book of the Mission," work which to some extent may be read in connection with the "Pri-st in Absolution." It was distributed to boys between twelve and fourteen, and the objection to works of this character is that it starts upon the assumption that children of that age are familiar with the subjects upon which it treats. The Rev. Thomas William Lemon, who, as curate of the parish, took so strong an objection to what was being done, applied to the bishop to be released from his duty, and in the application that he made he was bound in some way to state the grounds of his application. The bishop, in reply, wished to know specifically the charges which Mr. Lemon brought against his vicar, and against the missioners. In answer, Mr. Lemon called his missioners. In answer, Mr. Lemon called his lordship's attention to the fact that he had made no charges against the vicar, although that gentleman had lent his countenance to the practices that he complained of. His charges were against the missioners whose practices he detailed. At this stage at present the matter stands. In the course of a few posts Mr. Lemon will of course be relieved from work which has now become unconrelieved from work which has now become uncongenial, but the mischief to the parish will probably be long continued. The mission no doubt in some quarters has done much good, but in the Three Towns, as in other places, it has been employed as an instrument for the propagation of Popish doctrines and practices, and has been insidiously used strengthen the hands of the Ritualists.

"THE BASIS OF COMMUNION."

On Sunday evening the Rev. J. Baldwin Brown, B.A., delivered the first of two discourses at the Brixton Independent Chapel, entitled "The Present Controversy concerning the Basis of Communion." The rev. gentleman, after the usual service, chose for his text the words, "The Unity of the Spirit," from Ephesians iv. 3; but said he was not about to preach a sermon on the text that night, but hoped, when he resumed the discourse on December 16, to cast some little light on what this unity of spirit is, and how it may be maintained. After a few further introductory observations, he said that a grave and anxious question had arisen amongst Independents as an association of Independent churches. the recent meeting of the Congregational Union at Leicester, a meeting of different ministers con-nected with the Union was held, at which the question behind all that was said and done was this:—How much, or rather how little, of the faith once delivered to the saints should be held, as a matter of necessity, by the minister of any one of the system of churches forming the Independent body, to entitle him to that communion and fellowship which the Free Churches had been wont to hold with each other? Some people might hold that communion and fellowship had nothing to do with doctrine, but had relation to "life," in contrast to "thinking," but these things were matters of degree. We called ourselves a "free people"; and we now allowed a range of freedom which would have filled our fathers with dread and horror; but at the same time there were limits to that freedom, beyond which liberty must be licentious and baleful, as some spostles of licence had recently learned. To sever the question of doctrine from the life of a man, even one against whom possibly no charge could be laid, might therefore be felt, even by the boldest of the prophets of liberty, to be fatal to communion and fellowship, and might compel a protest even from the most advanced of the Liberal school; but it was, as he had said, always

a question of degree. The question was—"Is it desirable to mark a boundary with a formal and visible line; and, if so, where should the line be visible line; and, if so, where should the line be drawn?" The Liberal party—the advanced school—would probably say:—"We draw the boundary along the lines of the life; what passes within a man, how things shape themselves to his mind and spirit, we have no means of discerning. If we see in him the Christian graces and virtues, if he loves that which he sees in Christ and tries to grow into His likeness, then we have a clear and solid basis of communion which will be fruitful in vital results; and where which will be fruitful in vital results; and wherever we see manifestation of life we are in fellowship with it, and we ask no more." The other party, the elder party, which would represent a large majority of the members of their communion, would, he supposed, say:—"There are certain great facts which God has established, and truths which God has revealed, which lie at the root of all the higher prorevealed, which lie at the root of all the higher progress of all the human race, and these truths God has committed to faithful men to guard, and we should be unfaithful to our consciences if we were to lend whatever strength there may be in our fellowship to any minister who denies the facts and the truths by the power of which we are working for the salvation of the world." These would probably represent the statements of the younger and the older schools. Where was the truth? His purpose in the present discourse was not to answer that question, but to deal with some preliminary questions which would clear the was not to answer that question, but to dear with some preliminary questions which would clear the way for resuming the subject upon the next occasion of dealing with it. Some light might be thrown on the matter by considering how the question had arisen, and what was its relation to the general thought and movement of our times. The history of human thought would show that the progress of society had taken place in a zigzag direction, i.e., had swayed alternately to extremes, with an upward pressure reaching continually a higher level, commanding a wider horizon, and onferring on man a new sense of power, the balance between which extremes represented the harmony of life. The point here was to find the balance and the harmony. The materials for harmony of a very high order were slowly developed by the alternate, or zigzag, process described; and though some part of the process might have been eclipsed, it had never vanished. Men had only to work on in hore and all which segmed for a moment in hope, and all which seemed for a moment eclipsed would appear in good time. What men were on a small scale, society was on a larger scale. We must study the individual man to understand humanity. In society, as in man, one limb advanced at a time. In society the limb of faith, and the limb of knowledge advanced separately. Happy would it be if they could advance both together; but such was not the law of our present condition. In the two great streams of progress we had a certain consciousness of divergence and antagonism, each attempting to exclude the other from its necessary share in the conduct of human life. Nevertheless there was a concert between the two of which all were unconscious except the loftier spirits among men. Broadly speaking, there was a sharp opposition between faith and knowledge, but this was, of course, only true speaking broadly. There was much more culture in the sphere of faith than the philosophers dreamt of; and there was much more culture in the sphere of science than theologians dreamt of; but both belonged to the same vertebral column. There was no question that these two instruments of progress alternated in turn with the onward movements of society; and when one was in the ascendant, the disciples of the other were prone to a corresponding depression. The question which was now being discussed was really the ultimate question of the Evangelical churches. The asnwer was being demanded under the pressure of the same questioning spirit which had demanded before to look and search and know; the same questioning spirit which in the sphere of physical science was asking the equally formidable question, "What is life?" But this burden we now had to bear, and the difficulty we had to face, were part of the general strain and trouble of the time. If we looked at the assaults which society had had to endure in bygone ages, we should find enough to show us that our faith ought to be fed from deeper springs, and that the "Word of our Lord shall stand for ever." The Church had passed through precisely such crises as this before, and had come out very much the better for the process. When the "ages of faith," as they are called, were ending, Abelard was supreme in Christendom. Peter Abelard was the first of the great sceptics who set themselves to work to pull down theological strongholds. In France he tilted against the most reverend theologians, and as he himself expressed it, capsized them. But Abelard was the leader of a long line of thinkers who brought belief to the test of reason and experience, and encouraged the questioning of all things, both in heaven and on earth. The Church dreaded him, and raged at him; but this spirit of inquiry led ultimately to the Reformation, and then the age of faith was restored under higher conditions, and the central truths of the Gospel were still more firmly established. Then followed an age of in-tense religious activity, in which the theologians got the mastery. But there were vital questions in the background of the discussions that went on, and the age of the Deists set in. In that age of inquiry men said, "We are weary of doctrines and sects; conduct is the great matter; so long as a man lives virtuously we welcome him to the great

fellowship in which all good men are one." That was the principle which to a large extent ruled in society during the greater part of the eighteenth century, and this was precisely what men were saying again now. The age of keen criticism, which set in in the eighteenth century, threatened Christianity itself with destructions where the same of the sam tion; but, happily, the outburst of Evangelical zeal which followed saved the Gospel and society, and the old truths were left to their old dominion, only they ruled in the world with a larger, a higher, and a nobler aim. That Evangelical zeal had remained dominant, and here again, as of old, progress had gone on, as in each successive era, by an upheaval of the whole platform of human life. As of old, the theologians again took possession of the Gospel, claiming to rule it as their own domain; but meanwhile the human intellect had been at work on the problem of the nature of life with a penetrating power unknown since the days of Abelard. The fatal policy of the Churchin fighting against the conclusions of science, drawn only in the interest of truth (for science had no other interest) had generated a spirit which had acted disastrously in two ways. It had made the naturalists (he hoped the word "scientist" which did not express what was intended etymologically, would never come into general use) coldly con-temptuous of the whole sphere of Christian experience and knowledge; whilst it had made the pious mind dread what might come of the scientific questionings of truth; so that faith and knowledge were once again in dread antagonism Science was naturally felt to be the advancing power; but their bold pretension was to exclude the spiritual as an unverifiable influence over the region of nature. "These ideas of faith, God's moral law and immortality" say they "are not within our horizon; they may be true, but we cannot verify them." It was curious, however, to note how much these men of science took for granted, that which, by their own confession, could not be verified. Professor Huxley, for instance, contended that the doctrine of "Evolution" was so sure, that he declined any further reasoning on the subject; whilst a learned doctor of Vienna—a man of immense knowledge of the same subject, though asserting that the doctrine was so clear that it ought to be taught in every school—allowed that the theory of organic evolution could not be experimentally proved; but he added, that as the facts enabled anyone to draw the crowning inference, this deficiency did not shade his assurance. So that this verifiableness of the doctrine stood in precisely the same category as that of the belief of the Christian Church, of which we say that the facts observed enable anyone in his senses to draw the "crowning inference"—the one verification which the men of science admit is heeded. Then, again, criticism, in its young zeal, was always most active and destructive; but it had constantly happened that in the end it had had to build again what it had once destroyed. We had lived to see venerable documents, secular as well as sacred, of which critical science threatened to rob us, restored by sounder criticism. As an in-stance, among many, the unity of the Homeric poems had been now established. But there was poems had been now established. But there was a quiet assumption by the modern critics that the Christian faith was an assumption born of the aspiration of mankind. This kind of statement might tell powerfully on the secular mind, which would fancy it was the foundation rock vanishing. But many of our ministers were being pressed towards the conclusion that the Church of the future would take a still wider basis, and would base its influence on vital sympathy in the work of teaching mankind. In conclusion, the rev. gentleman showed how this feeling had come about, and had led up to the present crisis; and announced that he should deal with the question of Christian communion in deal with the question of Christian communion in the next discourse. He was no rigid doctrinarian, but he should hold that sound doctrine was in the long run as needful to Christian life as bones and flesh were needful to the human frame.

A series of articles on "Utopias, or Schemes of Social Improvement" will be contributed to the Leisure Hour for 1878, by the Rev. Moritz Kaufmann, author of "Socialism: its Nature, its Dangers and Remedies."

DISEASES OF THE THROAT MOST SUCCESSFULLY TREATED WITH DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—Sir G. Duncan Gibb, Bart., M.D., LL.D., Physician and Lecturer on Forensic Medicine, Westminster Hospital, author of various works on Diseases of the Throat and Larynx, writes:—"The experience of many years has abundantly proved the truth of every word said in favour of Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil by many of our first Physicians and Chemists, thus stamping him as a high authority and an able Chemist whose investigations have remained unquestioned. Its value, therefore, as a thorapeutic agent in a number of diseases, chiefly of an exhaustive character, has been admitted by the world of med cine; but, in addition, I have found it a remedy of great power in the treatment of many Affections of the Throat and Larynx, especially in Consumption of the latter, where it will sustain life when everything else fails. Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil has an agreeable flavour, is very palatable, and liked by children; hence its value in the third stage of Hooping-Cough, when it acts as a restorative and tonic." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, 2s &d.; pints, 4s. 9d.; quarts, 9s.; with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper, by all chemists. Sole consignees, Ansar, Harford, and Co., 77, Strand, London.—[ADVI.]

Correspondence.

TRADES UNIONISM.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist. SIR, -The letter of your correspondent "J. L." in last week's Nonconformist hardly calls for reply, as there is really little difference of opinion, apparently, between us. One or two of his points, however, I should like to refer to, if you can afford the requisite space. The charge of "want of impartiality in statement and of practicalness in point of remedy" which "J. L." brings against me, is somewhat of a cuckoo cry. Surely, one's sympathies may go unreservedly with toiling men and women in their unequal strife for existence without implying antagonism to the more favoured combatants. There are plenty to praise and bless the well-to-do. All England has been joining in hosannahs to one such during the last week. The lucky Strand bookseller, whose advent to power has been so enthusiastically greeted by the citizens of Westminster, is but the latest illustration of the universal tendency to lavish benedictions on the rich. Two steps only, and you are at heaven's

gate-become rich, and turn Tory. For one Dives, however, there are a million Lazaruses, and therefore on this ground alone it is but seemly that they should have the lion's share of one's sympathy. "J. L." demurs to my expression of regret at the almost universal standing aloof on the part of country ministers from the labour reform movement of the agricultural labourers, and looks with suspicion on a cordial alliance between the toiling masses and the Christian Church. I can only say that I am sorry for it. His charge of unpracticalness against me looks rather absurd in the light of such an objection. It is not pleasant to speak of one's own doings, but perhaps when I tell "J. L." that, by an energetic working of the Labourers' Union machinery for emigration purposes, I, and others in a rural district, have almost extinguished pauperism, and made all good, sound workmen masters of the position, he will retract his charge. Of this I feel morally sure, that if members of Christian churches and ministers resident in country districts had thrown themselves into the much-needed and most benefi. cent movement, instead of taking refuge behind their counters or parlour doors, there would not be such a dreary miserere ever heard at our county association meetings. Before men can be brought to believe in a report, they must have faith in the man who brings it. Any one who has seen the eager listening attitude of a crowd of hungry, illclad labourers, when a Joseph Arch has been speaking words of hope and sympathy to them on their village green, the rain the meanwhile pouring down perhaps in torrents, would not need to go a hundred miles to hear an eloquent D.D. read an elaborate address on the best means for enlisting the sympathies of the working classes on the side of the Gospel. No, no! If Congregational or any other unions are really in earnest in seeking the redemption of the great working population of England, there must be something done widely different from the orthodox programme. Christianity, in silk slippers and mincing gait, may do very well for a lot of well-to-do folks whose ambition is satiated by rich upholstery and sumptuous repasts, but it cuts a poor figure in the presence of grimy toilers, and in homes where the supreme effort is to keep the wolf from the door. With the tion of the philosophy of Christ's earthly mission. The amazing paradox of His voluntary assumption of an abject poverty, and His choice of penniless toilers for co-workers, is becoming more and more comprehensible. In proportion, as we enter into sympathy with His sublime pity for men, and are animated with His ambition to seek and save the lost, we find ourselves impelled by the resistless logic of circumstances to follow in His steps. We learn the absolute need of real self-denial. The plain truth about Christian Church fraternisation with labour organisations and other great democratic movements is that such fraternisation means the Cross. Let minister or Church member go and stand by a clamorous gang of labourers in their righteous demand for a better wage, and woe betide him if he be dependent on the employers of such wicked men! The very men who have been praying with him at church meetings for years will turn round upon him and unite with others to crush him; and, even if his circumstances place him beyond their reach pecuniarily, he will soon get a fuller insight into many of our Lord's utterances than any commentator can give him, by an unmistakable

realisation of the straitness of his future pathway. I have before my eye at this moment a Christian gentleman of the highest character, who, for no other fault than a too zealous advocacy of the cause of the field workers, has been literally hounded from office, from Church life, and from his very home. The men who have done this are among the most sanctimonious of the goody-goody school. They would not for the world be seen at an anti-State-Church meeting. To all appeals such as those of Joseph Arch their one reply is, "Let the potsherds of the earth strive with the potsherds of the earth." Interesting fraternity!

of the earth." Interesting fraternity!
Your correspondent, "J. L.," however, does not, I am sure, belong to any such narrow circle, and hence, as it appears to me, the anomaly of his position. He is in hearty sympathy with the upward tendencies of the labour-market, and yet he stands aloof, and would have others stand aloof, from the one practical means of amelioration. Trades unions are simply agencies of self-help, and a kind of natural protection against the greed of gold. As a shilling is to a five-pound note, so is the isolated toiler to the capitalist. A hundred shillings balances the note, and so combination among the toilers balances the inequality between capital and labour. The point of my former letter was that the time had arrived for a full and hearty endorsement of this necessity of toil on the part of the Christian Church, and the speedy removal, if possible, from the minds of the working classes of a deep-seated and certainly not unreasonable impression, that Christianity is ever on the side of the strong and rich. I take it that something of this sort must precede any successful attempts at storming the strongholds of iniquity and irreligion all around us. A child may easily conduct twenty horses to a pure spring of water, but twenty strong men could not make one horse drink water which was dashed with impurity. So is it with our elaborate church organisations. It is easy enough to build churches and ordain pastors, and, so far as the church gifts go, to purchase attendance, but what of the great outlying masses? Alas, we all know what. They have neither part nor lot in the matter. The brackish element in the water, to continue my figure, is the universal homage paid to wealth and position. Gold goes as far in the church porch as it does in Change alley, and ninety-nine out of every hundred of our shrewd toilers know this as well as we do.

* * Here this discussion must cease.

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR AIREDALE COLLEGE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—At a meeting of the present and former students of Airedale College, held at Leicester in the week of the Congregational Union meetings, it was thought most desirable that, if possible, scholarships for theological students should be established in connection with the college.

Under the able presidency of its esteemed principal, Mr. Fairbairn, the college has taken a new departure; and there is good reason to believe that it will henceforward exert an influence second to that of no other college in our denomination. Now that the system of non-residence has been adopted, there is scarcely any limit to the number of students who can be received, provided only that there are funds. There, however, is the difficulty. It would greatly encourage the committee, who, we are assured, are doing their utmost to increase the ordinary income, and at the same time it would extend the usefulness of the college, if permanent provision could be made by means of scholarships, for the training of additional students.

At the opening of the new building, our beloved and much lamented friend, the late Rev. James Parsons, of Harrogate, the oldest surviving student of the college, showed his deep interest in its prosperity by taking part in the services of the day; and that, too, though the state of his health might have furnished a sufficient excuse for declining to be present. No one who was there can once forget the fervent and appropriate prayer in which he implored in its behalf the Divine blessing. Of all the ministers who have been trained in the college, there has certainly not been one who has reflected on it higher honour We venture to suggest that no more fitting tribute of respect could be paid to his memory than by the formation of a scholarship bearing his name.

It would cost 1,000%. There are in Yorkshire and elsewhere men of substance who revered Mr. Parsons greatly—men, too, who are deeply interested in the great work of ministerial education. May we kindly and respectfully ask their help in

this matter? And will our ministerial brethren, especially those who were educated in the college, exert what influence they can to promote the object?

Other friends and supporters of the collegemen of position and wealth—have recently passed away. Will those who loved them thus commemorate their worth? There are good men still living who have it in their power to establish scholarships in their own names. May we hope that the suggestion will commend itself to their most enlightened judgment, and that they will see it right to act upon it? They will render good service by bequeathing to the college the amount required for the purpose, directing that it be so employed; but they will render the institution and the cause of God a better service by making themselves their own executors, and by establishing the desired scholarships at once.

The treasurer and the secretary of the college will, we need scarcely say, be glad to hear from anyone who may see it right to help in this matter, and so will any of the undersigned.

We are, Sir, yours truly,
SAMUEL GOODALL, Durham,
HENRY LINGS, Fleetwood.
GEORGE LORD, Liverpool.

Dec. 1, 1877.

NOTES OF AN AUTUMN TRIP TO NAPLES. (By an Occasional Correspondent.)

I have from time to time read in your paper the notes of a correspondent of yours who has used his annual holidays to advantage, by permitting the outside world to share his pleasures by reading the account of his travels. I cannot hope to rival him in the clear manner in which he narrates his story, but as a "follower a long way off," I will with your permission tell mine, hoping that some may be thereby induced to follow in my footsteps, to adopt my route, and receive the pleasure which I did. My destination was Naples, my time three weeks, and the amount I meant to spend limited; but as I intended to travel part of the way by night I deemed it prudent to travel first-class throughout. I bought my tickets in London to go to Naples and back, for which I paid 221. 2s., and an additional 5s., for the insurance of my life for 1,000l. My other expenses for living, conveyance, &c., were about 201., so that any one may fairly assume the cost of a trip such as mine, would be 421.

I left London one Saturday night in October by mail-train at eight o'clock p.m., and reached Paris about six on Sunday morning. A bath and breakfast soon took away the fatigue of the journey, and at eleven I was again ready to start for Marseilles. By considerate arrangement the train remains at Dijon long enough to enable the passengers to dine with comfort at a moderate cost. This, of course, I did not fail to do, and spent the half-hour allotted to me by the authorities of the railway with more pleasure than on my previous visit, when the station was "occupied" by German soldiers. As my fellow-passengers had left me I was anticipating a solitary night's journey, but, on returning to my carriage, I found that it was occupied by a Frenchman, with his wife and family. We soon fraternised, and had a pleasant journey as far Lyons, where my companions left me. From Lyons, which we left at ten o'clock on Sunday night, till we reached Marseilles on Monday morning at seven o'clock, I had only one fellow-passenger, and as he took one side of the carriage and I the other, we spent a quiet night, and, as far as I was concerned, a refreshing one. I had time to breakfast at Marseilles, and found at the railway-station ample accommodation for "a wash and brush up." At eight o'clock I started again, and as the train runs near the sea, I had till half-past six o'clock (when I stopped at San Remo) one of the most splendid ten hours' railway journey it is almost possible to conceive. On the right hand, the Mediterranean Sea, with its matchless colour, was sufficient of itself to attract and delight the traveller. The left hand landscape was, however, no less alluring. The mountains with ever-varying hues, now close to the shore and sgain receding from it, the alopes of which, thickly studded with cottages, and villages, and towns, manifested unmistakable indications of populousness and prosperity. I do not think that for nearly 500 miles, from Marseilles to Genoa, there was any interval where hamlets could not be seen. The sudden change from London climate on Saturday with the atmosphere of the city, and its noise and bustle to a Southern climate on Monday with

orange trees and olive groves and tropical plants, was a strange experience, almost like a sudden lull in a storm, a rest so sudden that one almost felt:— It is but, the rest of the fire from which the six has

It is but the rest of the fire from which the air has been taken.

I reached San Remo at half-past six o'clock, where, having friends staying, I had made up my mind to break my journey.

Here commenced my first experience of Italian life. Manners and customs alike strike one as peculiar. When leaving my friends to return to the hotel, I found some difficulty in finding my way through the winding paths of a garden on a starless night. The servant, to show me the way, lit two fir-cones, and, holding them aloft, marched before me to light me on my road. In the morning, walking through the town, I met two women walking side-by-side, carrying a sack of corn between them, one end of the sack being on the head of one, and the other end on the head of the other woman. At San Remo I found the advantage, or the reverse, of a depreciated paper currency, as for every 11. English money I obtained 27 francs 50 centimes in Italian paper, some of the notes being for amounts as small as half-a-franc. This, however, has one advantage, inasmuch as at many of the hotels the servants expect to be "tipped," and one has the opportunity of liberally rewarding each one with a bank note for 41d. It may be a question whether the "Thank you, very much," would be so heartily pronounced if the recipient knew, when thanks were expressed, the value of the donation.

My next resting-place was Genoa-"La Superba," as it is justly called-which I reached on Tuesday. It is a busy, bustling, business city, full of quaint streets, and quainter houses, and with palaces and and hovels back-to-back. Genoa, however, is a very interesting city, with many objects of interest deserving study. A pretty park, with a museum on the summit of a hill, is a favourite evening resort, and affords a stranger a good opportunity of judging of the size and position of the town. To my mind, however, the chief attraction was to be found in walking through the streets, which are unlike anything else, and some of them most imposing. Every here and there a statue or a fountain adds to the attractiveness of the city, whilst the interiors of some of the palaces, with their splendid staircases, render a lengthened stay in Genoa most desirable.

POLITICAL NEWS.

The adjourned meeting of the Liberal "Two Hundred" for the selection of two candidates for Southwark to represent the party at the next general election took place on Friday evening, at the Bridge House Hotel. The chair was occupied by Mr. Parish (a working man), vice-president of the association. Three candidates had been nominated at the previous meeting, and as there were now no further nominations, the chairman called upon the three gentlemen to address the meeting—namely, Mr. Locke, M.P., who has represented the borough for twenty years; Mr. Andrew Dunn, who contested the borough at the last election; and Mr. William Rabbits, president of the association. After the addresses, questions were asked and replied to by the candidates. A ballot was then taken, the result of which was in favour of Messrs. Dunn and Rabbits, the number of votes being—Dunn 95, Rabbits 83, and Locke 50. The adoption of Messrs. Dunn and Rabbits as the two Liberal candidates was then put to the show of hands, it being indispensable that they should secure the support of three-fourths of the meeting, the result being that the proposal was voted for, amid loud applause almost unanimously. It is understood that Mr. Locke was rejected because his views on disestablishment were not satisfactory. He has since written to the "Two Hundred" of the Southwark Liberal Association that it is his intention to stand for the borough at the next general election, feeling that he could not, in justice either to himself or to the 5,901 electors who recorded their votes in his favour at the last election, be bound by the decision of so small a portion of his constituents as were represented at the meeting referred to.

At a meeting of members of the Borough of Greenwich Liberal Association, held at Woolwich, Mr. J. R. Jolly in the chair, it has been decided to dissolve the present association. This having been done, a committee of twenty-one representative Liberals was elected to take the necessary steps to form a new association in the borough upon the plan of the Birmingham scheme, and to call a meeting of the Liberals very shortly in order to submit to shem a constitution upon that basis.

them a constitution upon that basis.

Political Liberal Associations, on the basis of the Birmingham Association, have been formed at Hull and Darlington.

A crowded meeting of the Devonport Liberal Association on Monday unanimously selected Sir David Wedderburn, formerly M.P. for South Ayrshire, to contest the borough at the next general

election, in conjunction with Mr. J. D. Lewis, the late M.P. Both gentlemen gave long addresses, in the course of which Sir David declared himself in favour of the assimilation of the county and borough franchise, and of the disestablishment of the English and Scotch churches, remarking that from within the Church rather than from without such a result was being brought about. He desired to see a reform of the law with regard to the sale of land, and approved of the Burials Bill, and legalising marriage with a deceased wife's sister.

The present Mayor of Newcastle under Lyme,

The present Mayor of Newcastle under-Lyme, Alderman Mellard, is named as a Conservative candidate for the representation of Stoke-upon-Trent.

didate for the representation of Stoke-upon-Trent.

Mr. J. T. Hibbert, M.P., was present at the annual soirse of the Heywood Reform Club on Saturday evening and spoke in support of a resolution which urged the assimilation of the county and borough franchise. He said that the power of the Tory party depended upon the present system of county representation, and that, although the adoption of household suffrage uniformly and a rearrangement of electoral districts might possibly give the Tories a majority, he was confident that the Liberal party would ultimately come uppermost. There were things more improbable, he observed, than the assimilation of the franchise by Lord Beaconsfield, with a view of "crushing" the Liberals. He trusted that when the Ballot Act came up for revision in 1880 the portion giving votes to illiterates would be struck out, inasmuch as it allowed the most corrupt action to be followed. There was no question which demanded more serious consideration, especially in the present state of trade, than that of taxation, for the annual expenditure of the country had under the Conservatives grown £6,500,000 in the past three years. While he was not prepared to support the repeal of the duties on luxuries, such as tobacco and spirits, he considered it was necessary to relieve all the real necessaries of life from taxation—in short, to have a "free breakfast table."

REPRESENTATION OF BRADFORD.

We have received some further letters on this subject, but have not space to insert all that is said on the subject. "A Radical," in reply to "A Miallite," remarks:—

Your correspondent thinks that we who differ from him should give our "reasons for thinking we can carry two extreme men under present circumstances." I believe that few of us have any desire to carry even one "extreme" man, but many of us, I think, that few, if any, will doubt that a large majority of the Liberals of Bradford do wish to carry two Disestablishment men at the next election; and why should we not do so? If the old constitutional principle that the majority shall rule be acted upon we shall most assure thy do so, and now that this question is fast coming, if it has bot already come to be the dividing line between the two great political parties in the nation it is manifestly our duty both to ourselves and to others to do it.

But your correspondent says, "Bradford is very peculiarly situated," and on that account he appears to think that we should be content to be virtually unrepresented upon the most prominent class of questions

But your correspondent says, "Bradford is very peculiarly situated," and on that account he appears to think that we should be content to be virtually unrepresented upon the most prominent class of questions that is likely to engage the attention of the future Parliament. In some respects our position is no doubt peculiar. We are reminded that we have in our senior member "a distinguished member of the late Liberal Government," and happily all the political world knows that Mr. Forster now occupies that position not by the favour or the votes, but in opposition to the clearly expressed wish of a majority of the Liberal electors of Bradford. And how do matters stand at present? So far as I know, Mr. Forster has never offered a single word in explanation of his unconstitutional condget at the last general election. There are no doubt a few—a very few—electors calling themselves Liberals who are satisfied with Mr. F. as their representative. There are others who on the ground of personal friendship, and especially remembering what he was twenty or thirty years ago, would no doubt support him; others there are who would vote for either him or anybody else in opposition to that harmless political nobody Mr. Ripley; and it appears there are some who confess to having little love for Mr. Forster or faith in him, who have got the idea that Bradford cannot possibly get rid of him. Such people say, We might as well send him to Parliament ourselves, because if we do not the Tories will. These amiable Liberals appear to forget that that is about the best possible reason why Liberals should not send him. My plan is, Let the majority of the party decide who shall be the Liberal candidates. The sooner the better, and let those who refuse to abide by that decision take the responsibility of again dividing the party and any other consequences which may follow.

"A Liberal," who wrote before against the ac-

"A Liberal," who wrote before against the acceptance of Mr. Forster in reply to "A Miallite," says little that is new on the subject. He remarks that if Mr. Forster and a Liberationist were to be returned, Bradford would be neutralised on the disestablishment question. "A Liberal" thinks that if Mr. Ripley got in again his votes would probably be more in favour of religious equality than those of Mr. Forster, who, from his position and influence, would be able to do incalculably more harm to the question than Mr. Ripley. Our correspondent fearlessly asserts that the Liberal party in Bradford can carry any two men they may select. But if there is a determination on the part of a small section of Liberals to thrust Mr. Forster on the constituency in order to rehabilitate him before the country, "A Liberal" trusts and believes that the bulk of the party will repudiate both them and him, and when the time of election comes, if it be found that the party cannot unite on Mr. Forster, that hon, gentleman may refuse to contest the seat.

Another correspondent, as an outsider, urges the

special claims of one of the gentlemen whose names have been suggested as suitable Liberal candidates. This, however, is a matter on which the Liberals of that town will decide for themselves, and would probably resent external advice. The writer thinks that if, at the next election, the Liberals were to unite in returning Mr. Forster and some well-known Liberationist, the fact that he was having the support of the Radicals would probably be of no little influence on Mr. Forster's future line of action, and that such an expression of large-hearted support would touch his sympathy, and possibly crush the incipient Conservatism he has of late displayed.

Epitome of Rews.

On Friday evening the Queen gave a dance to the servants and gillies on Her Majesty's estate, at which Her Majesty and Princess Beatrice, attended by the ladies and gentlemen of the household, were

The Rev. Mr. Campbell preached in Crathie Church on Sunday forenoon, in the presence of the Queen, Princess Beatrice, and the Marchioness of

Ely.

Her Majesty and Court are expected at Windsor from Balmoral to-morrow morning. Prince Leopold, whose health continues to improve, will be applied to the continues of the continues to improve the continues th

leave Balmoral with the Queen.

The thirty-third birthday of the Princess of Wales was celebrated at Sandringham on Saturday. The Prince and Princess and suite drove to Aumer, the seat of Mr. H. W. Celdham, and attended the meet of the West Norfolk Hounds, afterwards returning to Sandringham.

On Monday the guests who were being entertained at Sandringham left, and in the evening the Prince of Wales arrived at the seat of the

Maharajah Dhuleep Singh for a few daya' shooting.

The ex-King and Queen of Naples and suite arrived at Park View, Towcester, last week, from the continent, for the hunting season.

It is said that Prince Leopold is about to receive

a dukedom, an English title being chosen this time

by the Queen for her youngest son.

A gracious distinction (says the Court Journal)
will be conferred upon Lord Beaconsfield by the Queen, who will pay him a visit at Hughenden in December.

During the four days' recent shooting on the Londesborough Estates, Yorkshire, last week, eight guns (including that of the Prince of Wales) killed 5,889 pheasants, partridges, hares, rabbits, and woodcocks.

and woodcocks.

It is confidently expected in legal circles that the Government will appoint three new judges. Conservative lawyers having a claim to preferment are naturally elated at the prospect.

The Government is said to be contemplating the

offer of another dole to local taxpayers. is to be in the shape of the dog-tax, which returns

about 350,000*l*. a-year to the Exchequer. We doubt it, seeing the decling state of the revenue.

There is a report, according to the *Army and Navy Gazette*, that the authorities are alarmed at the "ugly rush" for retirements under the new warrant, and that they are thinking of asserting their right to limit the number of officers who may

Mr. Bright has promised to attend and address a meeting to be held at Manchester early in the present month, on the question of British Indiaespecially with reference to the prevention of famines, and to the development of the material resources of India. The meeting is expected to be a large and influential one.

Mr. Gladstone, in replying to the address of the Kerry Tenants' Defence Association, says whatever measure should arise while he continues to hold a reset in the House of Commons will when it

seat in the House of Commons will, when it includes the vital interests of Ireland, not fail to receive his attention. He will endeavour to be governed in relation to it by the same principles of equity in conjunction with his esteemed colleagues as he had heretofore sought to apply to the contruction of Irish measur

At a recent meeting held at Manchester it was decided to form an association for the reform of the stage. Letters expressing sympathy with the move-nent were read from several well-known actors, authors, and managers, and a resolution was passed declaring that the present condition of the stage demanded reform, and that in order to discourage the performance of plays tending to suggest laxity of morals, and with a view to support managers in their efforts to substitute plays of a higher tone, the Dramatic Reform Association and Literary Society be formed.

Mr. Cowan, M.P. for Edinburgh, while opening a British Workman public-house the other day, suggested that corporations should go to Parliament for power to take over the charge of these institutions in preference to adopting the Gothenburg

As an evidence of the depressed state of trade, it is stated from Darlington that, instead of over 14,000 men employed in the North of England iron manufacture three or four years ago, there are now only about 7,000. The Consett Iron Company, who employ about 2,000 miners, have been compelled, on account of the scarcity of orders in the iron trade, to "lay in" two of their pits, while at others the men are only employed three days a week. Several other coalowners in the district field it is weight. find it impossible to work their collieries, and a number of men are under notice to cease work.

The threatened lock-out at Mossley has commenced. One firm employing a thousand opera-tives closed their mills on Monday, and the example is to be followed by other masters. The number of hands now out of employment, including those on strike, is stated at between 2,000 and 3,000.

The distress amongst the working classes in the Forest of Dean is stated to be wholly unprecedented. On Thursday, at a meeting of several hundred women at Parkend, it was resolved to forward a memorial to the Queen, representing the extreme misery under which over five thousand persons were suffering. The memorial has been signed by tendames of the Forest, each about eighty years of age; ten mothers, each of whom has ten children; ten widows of ten colliers; ten orphan girls; and ten ladies. It is understood that Colonel Kingscote will present the memorial to Her Majesty. A letter was read at the meeting from the Lord Lieutenant, the Earl of Ducie, enclosing a donation in aid of the poor people, but pointing and that much of the distress was attributable to out that much of the distress was attributable to the refusal of the miners to work at reduced wages.

The Manx House of Keys have passed a measure making vaccination compulsory. The necessity for such a step has only made itself apparent to the islanders owing to a serious outbreak of smallpox in Douglas.

The total number of plans in relation to bills for railways and other public works, which were deposited at the Board of Trade last night, was 155, of which 80 are in respect of railways, as compared

with 74 last year.

The result of the Penarth School Board election is a triumph for Nonconformists-four Nonconformists against one Churchman having been elected. Three representatives of Episcopacy were started,

but two were out of the running.

The ground round St. Paul's Cathedral is to be laid out with paths, and thrown open to the public.

The 500l. offered to the ministers of religion by Mr. John Robinson—a betting man, who has just been returned as a member of the Nottingham Town Council-was at first refused, but subsequently accepted.

A long discussion took place on Thursday, in the Court of Common Council, as to the removal of Temple Bar, and it was decided that the City Lands Committee be empowered to remove it forthwith, but that it be an instruction to them that it should

be taken to some place to be selected by them.

An order was made on Friday by the Master of the Rolls for the committal to prison of Mr. John de Morgan, for having, despite an undertaking given some months ago, delivered inflammatory speeches with reference to the enclosure of land at Selston

The Calvinistic Methodist Association of North Wales has resolved to take steps to secure for the Principality an Act to close public-houses on

Sunday.

The Bank of England, on Thursday, reduced its rate of discount from 5 per cent., at which it has

stood for seven weeks, to 4 per cent.

Weston, the American pedestrian, has failed in his attempt to walk 500 miles in six days at Bristol. He had only walked 458 miles at eleven o'clock on Saturday evening, and he should have completed the whole distance by midnight.

A cashier, in the employment of Messrs. Cory Brothers, Cardiff, the largest colliery proprietors in South Wales, has just decamped with 2,000l. He had been sent from Cardiff on Saturday with that sum to pay the colliers, but left the train at Crockherbtown Station, and took a cab and drove to Newport. Thence he proceeded by Great Western Railway, it is believed, to London. Telegrams Railway, it is believed, to London. Telegrams have been sent all over the country, but no trace of Telegrams him has been discovered at present.

On Saturday, at the Justice-room of the Man-sion House, the Lord Mayor, on taking his seat, was presented with a pair of white kid gloves, there being neither charge nor summons for investigation.

The private view of the Winter Exhibition of Sketches and Studies by the Society of Painters in Water Colours took place on Saturday. The

It appears from the official inspectors of the London School Board that there are among the London Board schools twenty-three girls' schools, twenty-two infants' schools, and one boys' school which are carried on successfully, absolutely without corporal punishment.

The Birmingham Cattle Show was opened at Bingley Hall on Saturday, the operations for the day being mostly confined to the work of the judges. The total amount of prizes for the present, the twenty-nith annual exhibition, reaches 3236l. against 2,955l. in 1876. In the classes for cattle, sheep, and pigs, there are about 250 entries, and in point of quality the stock exhibited is of a high order.

A few days ago a minister in the Primitive Methodist Connexion recovered 2,300%. from the Midland Railway Company on account of injuries received at Kirkstall, near Leeds, materially affecting his sight. The Common Pleas Division has now granted a rule to show cause why there should not be a new trial, unless the parties would consent that there should be an examination of the plaintiff's eyes by a person who was above all suspicion, and that his opinion upon the question of blindness should be conclusive.

The new wing of Mount Stuart House, near Rothesay, the residence of the Marquis of Bute, caught fire on Monday, and it is feared that a considerable part of the building has been destroyed.

The apparatus for extinguishing flames was very defective. The marquis and marchioness were from home, but are expected daily.

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the London Mansion House Indian Famine Fund was held on Monday, when it was reported that the fund amounted to 486,000 l., including a promise of 6,000 l. from Sydney. Of this sum 455,000 l. has been remitted to India; and 8,000 l. has been absorbed in expenses. The committee, before separating, voted a further sum of 15,000 l. to

A change in the arrangements hitherto existing in the matter of discount on postage stamps has been made. The public have been allowed to go to the Stamp Office, and to receive a discount of I per cent. on purchases of 10l. value. This is now stopped by the Stamp Office authorities, and purchasers must give full prices.

The present gross rateable value of the metropolis, as appears from a return just issued, is 29,283,000L

Cardinal Manning is reported to be still detained in Paris by illness. He has forwarded thence to Rome the papers which he intended conveying to the Vatican in reference to the Roman Catholic Church in Scotland.

A Vienna telegram says the sentence of death passed on M. de Tourville, for the murder of his wife in the Tyrol Pass, has been commuted to hard labour for life.

In the Italian Chamber, on Saturday, Signor Nicotera, the Minister of the Interior, said that brigandage had been destroyed in Sicily, and that the public safety was almost completely restored.

On Saturday night the coloured Jubilee Singers from the Fisk University, Nashville, United States, gave their fifth concert at Berlin, and were again received by the enthusiastic applause of the audience. The Emperor and royal family have repeatedly attended these peculiar concerts.

The Pope has addressed a letter to the editor of

the Unita Cattolica granting the request of the Roman Catholic journalists that St. Francis of Sales may be assigned to them as their patron saint and protector. A pontifical brief, confirming the decree of the Congregation of Rites, by which St. Francis of Sales has been proclaimed a Doctor of the

Church, will also be published shortly.

The expedition of the Geographical Society of Paris for the exploration of Equatorial Africa is to leave France on the 15th of next month. It will land at the mouth of the Niger, from whence it will endeavour to reach the eastern coast. It will be commanded by the Lieutenant of Turcos, Count de

Semelé, and composed of former African tirailleurs.

Last Thursday was observed throughout the
United States as a day of national thanksgiving and prayer, in accordance with a proclamation issued by President Hayes.

After a debate which lasted for fourteen hours. the United States Senate decided at an early hour on Saturday morning that Mr. Kellogg, Republican, should sit for Louisians, and Mr. M. C. Butler, Democrat, for South Carolina.

Miscellaneous.

BURIED ALIVE.—The Appeal Court at Naples has had before it a case of a woman being buried alive. It appeared from the evidence that some time ago a woman was interred with all the usual formalities, it being believed that she was dead, while she was only in a trance. Some days afterwards, the grave in which she had been placed being opened for the reception of another body, it was found that the clothes which covered the unfortunate woman were torn to pieces, and that she had even broken her limbs in attempting to extrihad even broken her limbs in attempting to extri-cate herself from her living tomb. The court, after hearing the case, sentenced the doctor who had signed the certificate of decease and the mayor who had authorised the interment each to three months'imprisonment for involuntary manslaughter.

lecture on the telephone before the Physical Society of London on Saturday afternoon. In the course of his address, he said that 258 miles was the longest distance at which he had carried on conversation, although he had conversed with several thousand miles of wire He had heard the breathing of a man 149 miles off. Within the last few days the telephone had been successfully tried between England, Guernsey, and France. Some suc-cessful experiments were made with the tele-phone on Saturday between Aberdeen and Inverness, a distance of one hundred miles. Songs and choruses were distinctly transmitted and conversation was carried on at times with marvellous distinctness, notwithstanding the weather was unfavourable. The experiments were made with Professor Bell's instruments.

Boys' Home, FARNINGHAM.—The annual dinner in aid of the Home for Little Boys, near Farningham, Kent was held on Wednesday night at Willis's Rooms. Mr. John Walter, M.P., presided. In the Home, which was established thirteen years ago for boys under 10, who are either homeless and destitute or in danger of falling into crime, but who are not eligible for any of the orphan asylums, there are at present 300 youthful inmates. In the course of the principal speech of the evening the chairman said that, from personal inspection, he was in a position to testify to the efficient character of the nurture and education provided in the institution.

ever might be the result of the extension of temperance and thrift upon the pauperism of the metropolis, it was a matter of certainty that there would always be an ample supply of candidates to fill such institutions as that for which he was soliciting the support of his hearers. It might be said that the children who were the objects of the charity should be left to become inmates of the workhouse; but if that were allowed, they would suffer from the want of home life, an element of happiness which the institution supplied, and lack opportunity for developing individuality of character. In some subsequent remarks Mr. Walter observed that the cost of keeping each child had amounted to less than the sum required per head in district schools. He trusted that eventually a school for girls might be founded on the same principles as those regulating the establishment which the company before him had met to aid. Among the other speakers were Mr. W. H. Willans (treasurer), General Sir Richard Wilbraham, and Mr. Robert Hanbury (president of the Home). The subscriptions collected reached the Home). The the sum of £1,142.

BANQUET TO THE NEW FIRST LORD OF THE ADMI-RALTY.-Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P., was entertained on Thursday evening at a banquet in St. James's Hall given in celebration of his appointment to be First Lord of the Admiralty. Lord H. Scott, president of the Westminster Conservative Association, dent of the Westminster Conservative Association, presided, and among those present were Sir Stafford Northcote, Mr. Cross, and a large number of Conservative members of Parliament. Sir Stafford Northcote, in acknowledging the toast of Her Majesty's Ministers, spoke chiefly in praise of Mr. Smith, and touched very briefly on political affairs. He said that the cordiality with which the toast had been received was peculiarly gratifying at a time of great difficulty like the present, when the Government had need of the intelligent confidence of the country. Mr. Smith, in responding to the toast of his health, defended the financial administration of the Government, said that the navy was in a highly efficient state, and remarked that it would be his duty to keep it up to the standard which it reached under his lamented predecessor. With regard to the war, he said that the highest British interests would be promoted by peace in Europe and throughout the world; and he fervently hoped that, after so much bloodshed and the satisfaction of the military honour both of Russia and Turkey, some Power would arrest the hands of the belligerents before further misery was inflicted. Mr. Cross, in respond-ing for "The House of Commons," remarked that he had nothing to add to nor to take away from his statement in the House last session about the protection of British interests, which represented the opinions of the whole Cabinet. He said that the words contained in Her Majesty's Speech from the Throne at the close of last session were entirely in accord with the feelings of every member of the Ministry, and he added, "If the opportunity should offer, as, please God, it may offer before long, when we, in concert with the other Powers of Europe, may be in a position to put a stop to this war in any way, we shall be ready to do so."

MR. ARCHIBALD FORBES -At the Crystal Palace on Wednesday, Mr. Archibald Forbes, the Daily News special correspondent, in presence of about 2,000 people, gave an interesting account of his recent experiences as a war correspondent. He described in the first place the qualifications necesdescribed in the first place the qualifications necessary for a successful war correspondent. He should be acquainted, if possible, with languages, be conversant with all kinds of military operations, have a supreme disregard of fire, and be big and ugly enough to induce the belief that it would be very unwise to take liberties with him. He should be able to ride on anything that carries in his way. be able to ride on anything that came in his way, and be good for a hundred miles at a stretch without getting tired, and at the end to write a hand sufficiently legible for a foreign telegram at the rate of a column an hour, to describe a battle vigorously as well as accurately, and return at once to the scene of action. Mr. Forbes gave afterwards a graphic description of the battle of Playna. wards a graphic description of the battle of Plevna, which he characterised as one of the bloodiest encounters of the century. The lecture was highly enjoyed throughout, and Mr. Forbes had a most enjoyed throughout, and Mr. Forces had a most enthusiastic reception. He appeared decorated with various Russian, Austrian, and Spanish orders. On Friday afternoon Mr. Forces gave a lecture at the Royal United Service Institution, on the subject of "The Russian Military Operations in Bulgaria." Lieutenant-General Wardlaw presided, and there was a large audience, which included the Duke of Sutherland and many officers of high military rank. Mr. Forbes was very cordially received, and at the close of the address a vote of thanks was accorded him, on the motion of the chairman, seconded by General Lord Mark Kerr. chairman, seconded by General Lord Mark Kerr. On Saturday evening Mr. Forbes was entertained at dinner at Willis's Rooms by his brother journalists and personal friends. Amongst the company, about 150 in number, were the Duke of Sutherland, Lord Houghton, General Lord Mark Kerr, Sir Charles M Grigor, and Sir John Heron Maxwell. Mr. Sala presided, and in paying a warm tribute to the genius of Mr. Forbes, and to the value of his labours, heartily wished him health, long life, prespectly, and renown, on the speedy long life, prosperity, and renown, on the speedy resumption of his duties as one of the war correspondents of the Daily News

ALEXANDRA PARACE -The third of the present series of Saturday Concerts was given on the 1st inst., in the spacious concert 100m, which was tolerably well filled. Since the secession, last summer, of Mr. Weist Hill, who had, from the first, officiated as conductor on these occasions, the

tiuction in his new sphere. The work allotted to the efficient band under his direction on Saturday was Mozart's ever welcome "Jupiter" symphony; Sir Steindale Bennett's overture, "The Wood Nymphs; and Bethoven's "Men of Prometheus," which were played with precision and delicacy, though the first two movements of the symphony were taken rather more slowly than we have been accustomed to hear them. But the band took nearly as important, though subordinate, a part in other works in the programme, prominent among which was Mendelssohu's violin concerto in E minor, the solo being played by Mons. Léon Cato, of Berlin, who made his first appearance on the occasion, and met with a reception which would seem to promise him a high place in public favour should he remain in this country. The principal vocalists were Miss Cummings, who sang "An quel giorno" from Rossini's Semiramide, and Henry Smart's "Lady of the Lea," in both of which her round full voice was heard to great advantage, and Madame Edith Wynne, who was encored in and Madame Edith Wynne, who was encored in Arthur Sullivan's "Let me dream again," and also gave the music of Leonora in the finale to Mendelssohn's unfinished opera, "Lorely," with much expression and power. The choral music in this charming fragment was, on the whole, very well sung by the two hundred voices forming the Alexandra Palace Choir—though with a slight occasional unsteadiness which a little extra rehearsing would no doubt have removed. Later in the evening. a performance by the band of the Grenadier Guards, under Mr. Dan Godfrey, took place in the Central Hall, and was varied by a place in the Central Hall, and was varied by a selection of part-songs in honour of the occasion (the Princess of Wales' birthday) conducted by Mr. David Beardwell. Alfred Tennyson's "Welcome to Alexandra" was also recited by Mr. Marlande Clarke, the "thunders of fort and fleet" being illustrated by some rather startling detonations outside the hall. A selection from Handel's works with Miss April Single and Mr. Versen works, with Miss Annie Sinclair and Mr. Vernon Rigby, and a choir of 1,000 voices is announced for next Saturday evening, and the "Messiah" for the following Saturday.

MR. GOSCHEN ON THE IMAGINATION. -On Thursday MR. GOSCHEN ON THE IMAGINATION.—On Inursday evening the Right Hon. G. J. Goschen, M.P., distributed the prizes gained by the pupils who during the past year have been successful at the Liverpool Institute. Mr. Goschen said that, as a man of business who knew what he owed to a public school and university education, he wished to bring out very clearly a point on which he felt strongly. He wished to warn them against the danger of a too utili-tarian education, and to insist on other tests as to the value of instruction they received and the studies which they followed, besides their direct and immediate bearing on their prospects of life. (Hear, hear.) He held that in intellectual matters, as well as in religious life, man could not live by bread alone. Education must deal with their lives as well as qualify them to earn their livelihoods. Education quality them to earn their livelihoods. Education must do more for them than enable them to win their bread, outstrip their neighbours, increase their business, and enable them to marry and bring up a family. He wanted education to enable, to brighten, and to beautify their lives; he wished it to increase their pleasures and their powers of happiness, and to multiply their resources. fore, while others pleaded on behalf of useful knowledge—and he sympathised with those—he could speak on behalf of the cultivation of the imaginative ofaculties. He would not admit that there was antagonism between business and culture. The cultivation of the imaginative faculties would never disqualify men and women for the practical duties of life. Nor would culture ever interfere with the due discharge of business duties by business men in any sphere. (Cheers.) Speaking with regard to the power of public opinion as a governing element, the right hon gentleman said it was not sufficient that men should have only knowledged their own any supplies. Public opinion should ledge of their own surroundings. Public opinion should be properly trained. History which lay beyond their own immediate range should be studied. It was not an easy thing for democracies to govern several self-governing colonies and subject-races. Imagina-tion in the highest sense was necessary for the noble discharge of the imperial duties. (Hear, hear.) The teaching of history was that notwithstanding Krupp guns and Paliser shells, Martini rifles, and Chasepot rifles, ironclads and torpedoes, field telegraphs and balloons, one great European nation losing influence and another taining it—notwithstanding all that a great country like England, with its thirty-five millions, unsurpassed in wealth, had no businesseto depreciate its own power or to minimise those great efforts which, if need be but only if need be and only if right be-it would venture to put forth.

(Loud cheers) THE LATE REV PROFFSSOR HERBERT. - Our obituary records the decease of this accomplished man who possessed a rare combination of gifts as a man who possessed a rare combination of filts as a scholar, writer, teacher, and preacher. His college life was spent chiefly at Spring Hill College, Birmingham, during the last years of the late Professor Henry Rogers' connection with that institution; but he removed from Spring Hill, Birmingham, to the Laneashire Independent College, when Mr. Rogers was appointed to the principalship of the latter institution. Between tutor and student there was a strong reciprocal bond of attachment and admiration. Mr. Herbert's first pastorate was of the church at Nether Chapel, Sheffield, in 1859; and

post has been held by Mr. Frederic Archer, who has so long been famous as the organist to the institution, and bids fair to achieve similar disever, he officiated in the Bowdon Congressional gational Church during eighteen months of the years 1862 and 1863, as locum tenens for the late Rev. A. J. Morris. In 1876 Mr. Herbert was ap-pointed to the Chair of Church History and Philosophy in the Lancasure Independent College, and so lately as the week before last he delivered his usual lectures to the students in that institution. In fulfilling the duties of each of his appointments, Mr. Herbert won the affection of every person associated with him by the singular beauty and consistency of his life, character, and teaching. His father is Mr. Alderman Herbert, of Nottingham, and his mother is a member of the family of Taylors of Ongar, being the sister of Isaac Taylor, the philosopher, and of Ann and Jane Taylor, the widely-known writers of "Original Poems" and "Hymns for Infant Minds." They both survive him at an advanced age. On accepting the duties of his new position, Mr. Herbert removed his residence to Attripolary and the bert removed his residence to Altrincham, and the attachment between him and the church which he had formerly served at Bowdon at once revived. The feeling in the congregation last Sanday when his death was referred to, was deep and painful.

Mr. Herbert was buried in the family grave at
Nottingham on Monday last, a service of simplicity and beauty being conducted by the Revs. Professor Scott and James Mattheson. In addition to mourners and friends in Nottingham who followed him to the grave, Professor Scott and the Rev. J. H. Gwyther attended as representatives of the Lancashire College; the Revs. A. Mackennal and Elkanah Armitage, Messrs. W. Armitage, Thomas Thomason. G. Stanley Wood, and Wm. Milne, as representing the Bowdon Church, past and present; and Messrs. Fisher and John Milne as representing the church at Cheadle.

LONDON UNIVERSITY. -The following are lists of the candidates who have passed the recent examinations :- Examinations in the Hebrew Text of the Old Testament, in the Greek Text of the New Testament, in the evidences of the Christian Religion, and in Scripture History. First Examination.—Pass List:—First Class: W. H. Bennett, M.A., Lancashire Independent College, prize; Jacob Stephenson, Wesleyan College, Richmond, and private study, prize. Second Class: Samuel Walter Green, Rawdon College. Third Class: John Davis, New College; William Foster, Headingly College, Leeds; George Litting, M.A., LLB., private study. Second B.A. and Second B.Sc. Examinations.—Examinations for Honours (B.A. and B.Sc. conjointly).—Logic and Moral Philosophy—First Class: Jacob Gould Schurman, B.A., University College, disqualified by age for scholarship; William Arnold Statham, B.A., University College, Scholarship; Alfred James Harvey, B.A., University College. Second Class: Herbert Wm. Trenchard, B.A., University College; Louis Cohen, B.A., Jews Free School; William Joseph Spratling, B.Sc., University College and private study. Third Class: Nicholas Joseph Synnott, B.A., Catholic University College. Kensington: Charles the Old Testament, in the Greek Text of the New Third Class: Nicholas Joseph Synnott, B.A., Catholic University College, Kensington; Charles Edward Davis, B.A., private study; Cecil Warburton, B.A., Old Trafford School and private study; James Easterbrook, B.A., St. Mark's College, Chelsea. Classics—(B.A. only) First Class: Francis Ince Anderton, Oratory School, Birmingham, schools pairs and Second. Class: Har-Class: Francis Ince Anderson, Uratory School, Birmingham, scholarship. Second Class: Harrington Hugh Melville Percival and Edward Sprague Weymouth, University College, equal. French—First Class; Heinrich Baumann, University of Bonn, disqualified by age for the prize; Louis Cohen, Jews' Free School, prize; Benjamin Whitehead, private study and tuition. Second class: Edward Sprague Weymouth, University College: Charles Daulman Webb, private study College; Charles Daulman Webb, private study. Third class: Alfred James Harvey, University College; Harrington Hugh Melville Percival, University College. German—First class: Heinrich Baumann, University of Bonn, disqualified by age for the prize. Second class: Francis Henry Brown, University College Third class: William Sheil, King's College.—Chemistry (B.Sc. only)—Second class: William Leonard Wills, Owens College. Except Henry Cook Royal College of College; Ernest Henry Cook, Poyal College of College; Ernest Henry Cook, Foyal College of Science, Dublin; James Hugh Paul, private study. Experimental Physics—Second class: William Lecnard Wills, Owens College. Third class: Ernest Henry Cook, Royal College of Science, Dublin.—Physical Geography and Geology—Second class: Alexander Simpson, B.A., F. C. Divinity Hall, Aberdeen; Alexander Campbell Dixon, private s'udy; William Joseph Spratling, University College and private study—Botany—Second class: Robert Penry Scanes Spicer, St. Mary's Hospital.

"Dr. Barnardo at the Edinburgh Castle" is the subject of the sketch of "Men and Manners in the Pulpit" in this week's Mayfair.

Hospital.

According to Marfair, the author of that singularly interesting book, "Five Years' Penal Servitude," now occupies an honourable position in the service of the Admiralty.

Incombustible writing-paper has been invented by two Salamanca sugars, which is meanaged.

by two Salamanca savans, which is warranted to resist the most intense heat. A single sheet will carbonise, but will not burn, while if a roll of prepared paper be placed in the fiercest fire, although the outside leaves and the extreme edges may carbonise, the interior will remain unaltered, and the writing or printing will be perfectly legible. Papers already written or printed upon may undergo the process of preparation without injury.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

• We have received a further letter from Mr. Kitson, of Torquay, which reiterates several of the statements to which we have replied. We decline to reply again. We note only one point afresh. Our correspondent again asserts that "the English nation has pronounced against the Burials Bill by a majority of 101 of its representatives." On reference to our files we find that, since the election of the present Tory Parliament, Mr. Osborne Morgan's Burials Bill was rejected in 1875 by a majority of fourteen (248 to 234); and in 1876 that the resolution of the hon. gentleman on the same subject was rejected by a majority of thirty-one (279 to 248)—the difference between the two being solely due to a more stringent whip of the Tories. We were puzzling over Mr. Kitson's magical "101" when it suddenly burst upon us that our ingenious correspondent meant English and Welsh members exclusively! He is welcome to all the benefit he can derive from his subtlety and sophistry. But we would remind him of what he will be hardly prepared to deny, viz., that if a bill founded upon Lord Harrowby's proposal, or any other, should pass both Houses of Parliament, it will certainly become the law of the land, notwithstanding Mr. Kitson's fine-drawn distinctions in respect to English, Scotch and Irish

Aonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1877.

SUMMARY.

MATTERS in France wear a graver aspect than ever. Marshal MacMahon is virtually a prisoner at the Elysée. He is deceived—if such can be said of an obstinate and narrowminded soldier who is ignorant of constitutional needs-and the nation is being betrayed by a clique of nobles, Bonapartist conspirators, and priests who keep out the light, pervert his mind, and attempt to hoodwink the French nation. By a supreme effort of will the Marshal consented to see the Presidents of the two Chambers last week, but the interview, from which some good might reasonably have been expected, was made of no effect by a false statement having beforehand been made to him of alleged demands of the Left. The appropriement of the Duc Left. The announcement of the Duc d'Audiffret-Pasquier that the Senate would not agree to a second dissolution, appears to have produced no effect upon the President, who is said to have expressed entire confidence that another appeal to the country would give him a second majority! Subsequently, M. Dufaure, the most Conservative leader of the Left Centre, was summoned by the Marshal, but he was only commissioned to consult with the members of his party to see if they could agree upon a programme acceptable to the Marshal, but not to form a new Ministry. Meanwhile, the industrial interests of the country are being seriously paralysed, and the merchants and traders of Paris held a meeting to memorialise the President, and beg him to submit to the declared will of the nation. Their delegates were refused a personal audience, and referred to the Marshal's aide-de-

The hollowness of these pretended negociations was revealed yesterday by a semi-official note, stating that all the conciliatory aims of the Marshal had been frustrated by the preliminary condition sought to be imposed upon him for amending the Constitution with a view to restrict the power of the Senate as to the dissolution of the Chamber. No such condition, nor indeed any, was mentioned by the three Liberal statesmen whom the President summoned to the Elysée. The semiofficial statement is untrue, the only colour for it being a personal and confidential memorandum given to the Marshal by M. Duclerc, who had no mission whatever from his party. pretext for breaking off objectionable negociations having been seized, the Chamber, seeing that its dissolutions resolved upon, has taken action. Yesterday M. Ferry, on behalf of the Budget Committee, recommended that the four direct taxes should not be voted until a Parliamentary Cabinet had been appointed-the contention being that the main resources of the country could not be surrendered to the Government till the national will had been deferred to; or as M. Gambetta put it, amid immense applause, "It had now to be seen whether France was a nation governing itself, or whether it was commanded by one man." M. Rouher, the Imperialist leader, who has suddenly come to the front, then proposed a resolution requesting the Committee to present their report on the indirect to present their report on the indirect transto present their report on the indirect taxes, urgency for which was refused by a majority of

referred to the Bureaux. Before the sitting closed, both M. Leon Renault and President Grévy denied the truth of the statements contained in the semi-official note, which seems to have produced a very ominous impression on the public mind. But the Duc de Broglie, M. de Fourtou, Mgr. Dupanloup, and the other conspirators behind the Marshal will apparently persevere, whatever the consequences. To-morrow the Budget Report will be presented entire, unless, as is rumoured, the Chamber is prorogued for a week with a view to form a Ministry which will demand a dissolution.

It would appear that Pius IX. is in extremis, and that the fear of his decease and what is involved in it is one of the serious objections to the formation of a Liberal Cabinet in France. The Pope is said to have great difficulty in breathing, and death from suffocation is feared. The latest telegram from Rome states that His Holiness "is disturbed by gloomy forebodings," and that there is no hope of his recovery.

The war news of the week seems to show that

Turkey is being hard-pressed by her foe. No attempt has yet been made by Osman Pasha to break out of Plevna, but all the reports agree that in a week or two he must either make the attempt or surrender to the Russian commanderin-chief. Mehemet Ali Pasha, so far from being able to come to his relief, finds it difficult to make any stand against General Gourko's forces, even in the mountainous regions of the Balkans, where a hard struggle is going on, and where some of the best passes have been seized by the Russians. The very strong position of Kamarli is still obstinately held by the Turks, and should it be captured or turned, Mehemet Ali will have no resource but to retreat upon Sofia. At this critical juncture Servia is about to enter the field. Her troops are ready for action on the frontier; the remonstrances of England have produced no effect; and it would appear from a Vienna telegram that Prince Milan, in an address to a body of soldiers marching to the frontier, declared that war was necessary, and that it would be begun with a certain prospect of a better issue to the next campaign, in which Servia would be better armed than in the last war, and would have the support of a powerful ally. From Erzeicum there is a vague report that that city is being bombarded by the Russians.

The annual message to the United States Congress was sent by President Hayes on Mon-

day, and is not a document of absorbing interest. The President favours the resumption of specie payments and civil service reform; he bears testimony to the social and political pacification of the South, but he passes no opinion on the award of the commissioners in respect to Canadian fisheries. His most important declaration referred to the currency. The House of Representatives has passed a bill in the favour of remonetization of silver, and though the President does not object to restore "the dollar of the fathers," he declares that to pay off the national bonds in coin of less value than gold "would involve a violation of public faith which would work irreparable injury to the public credit." Mr. Hayes does not apprehend much difficulty in arranging the extradition question with this country, but fears that troubles are in store on the Mexican frontier, where the American Army is being reinforced. As the Democrats have now a narrow majority in the Senate as well as in the House, the President and his Ministers are not likely to be without anxieties during the Session.

FANATICS UNDER THE COLD-WATER CURE.

THE deputation of nobodies who waited on Lord Derby last Wednesday, with the object of plunging this country into war, counted only one name at all known to the public—that of Sir Henry Hoare; and he, in deprecating the influence of "fanatics," made the astounding assertion that the Nonconformists generally "believed in the policy of Turkey." Now, if foneticism means a meanman which on the fanaticism means a monomania, which on one subject is incapable of distinguishing selfevident falsehood, and passionately insists on the reality of self-contradictory dreams, no better illustration of it could be given than this wild statement of the opinion of Nonconformists. We question whether a single properly Nonconformist congregation could be found throughout the land which would not almost unanimously condemn, as unpardonable wickedness, any attempt even to endanger our neutra-lity for the purpose of preserving the insufferable misgovernment of the Porte. Indeed, nothing but fanaticism could have made such a deputation possible, or enabled its speakers to use without a blush the arguments reported in the urgency for which was refused by a majority of 131 (328 to 197), and the proposal was ventured to recall the ominous precedent

of 1854. And to talk of "an alliance offensive and defensive," or "a commercial treaty bind-ing us on equal terms" with a Power plunged into bankruptcy by its own dessolute wickedness, was only not fanaticism because it was drivelling folly. The nation owes small thanks to the deputation for its intentions. But unintentionally it has earned our hearty gratitude by giving a conspicuous illustration of the insane weakness of the war party, and also for provoking the healthy douche of cold common-sense with which Lord Derby dispersed his visitors to their homes.

One of the happiest circumstances attending the Foreign Secretary's speech, was perhaps the insignificance of the deputation to which it was immediately addressed. For this suggests that Lord Derby must have been longing for an opportunity to address the world, and felt so strongly the necessity for preventing mistakes as to English intentions in regard to the rapidly-approaching crisis, that he eagerly availed himself even of the Turkish Defence Association and the "Polish White Eagle" for the purpose. The frivolous air and hectoring tone of the Premier's sneering references to Russia in his Guildhall speech had left a disagreeable impression on many minds, and it is a welcome relief to find that such words are to be interpreted only in a Disraelian sense The tone of Lord Derby was serious and weighty, and showed that, under a sense of heavy responsibility he spoke the sober mind of the Government. Yet the utter folly of some of the speakers could not but provoke a touch of satire here and there in his reply. "He could not, for his own part, think that the true line of communication between England and India lay through the Euphrates Valley.' On the contrary, he inclined to the belief that " so long as we have the Suez Canal uninterrupted and undisturbed, we have a communication suffi-cient for all purposes." One of the deputation had suggested that if the Russians got to Trebizonde it would be all over with the Suez Canal. This wise proposition Lord Derby "would not undertake to negative off hand," but it "appeared to him somewhat difficult of proof." Another was afraid that the woes of the Porte would disturb the Afghans, and then all English institutions in India would go down like a set of ninepins in an earthquake. But Lord Derby remembered an Afghan war some twenty-five or thirty years ago, and he was not able to recall "the slightest feeling of sympathy shown in favour of the people of Afghanistan by our own Mahomedan fellow subjects in India." He naturally deprecated the idea that the policy of the Government had been forced upon it by popular opinion. But that is a point of little importance so long as we have a surance that, from whatever cause, the policy is a sound one.

No part of his lordship's speech was more welcome or better in tone than that in which he referred to the temptation always felt by a part of the nation to plunge us into the contest whenever a great war arises. In the case of the American war and of the Franco-German war there were those "who maintained that we were eternally disgraced and lowered in the eyes of the world" because we took no part. But Lord Derby agreed with "the great majority of the public of this country, that if we had intervened in either of these wars we should have committed a great blunder, and involved ourselves in un-necessary calamities." On the whole, the country will feel assured that so long as Lord Derby's ideas have a decisive weight in the Cabinet—and Mr. Cross's speech next day indicates that they are in the ascendant—peace is tolerably safe. He believes "that unless war is necessary it is a crime;" and though this is a truism to which even fanatics would not refuse their assent, yet there is something in the tone of the speaker which leads us to think that to his mind the necessity of war would not very easily be proved. There are only three points in the speech which could occasion apprehension even to the most nervous lover of peace. One of these is the reference to an "undisturbed and uninterrupted" communication through the Suez Canal. There is something in the emphasis of these words suggestive of English claims for a share of the plunder when the goods of Turkey are distributed. Another point is the reference to Austria. Lord Derby did not agree with the opinion that Austria was ready to do anything. But we should have been more glad to hear that whatever Austria did, we should let those concerned settle their own business amongst themselves. But perhaps the most important point was the mention of the necessity for refusing to allow Constantinople "to pass into the hands of another Power." Does this include a refusal of their natural inheritance to the Greeks? Does it bar out the establish-

ment of a free city under the guarantee of several Powers? Does it involve a protection by the British fleet of the last refuge of the beaten oppressor? We earnestly hope not. To imagine that we can protect the Ottoman clique from the fate always awaiting those who "please not God, and are contrary to all men," would be to suppose that we can fight against destiny. "The wrath is come upon them to the uttermost."

THE LIVERPOOL BLACK BOOK.

THE boast of the nineteenth century is that it is an age of civilisation. For our part, we should despair of the human race if we did not believe that our posterity would look back upon the present time as belonging to the semibarbarous annals of the English nation. We do not depreciate the good that exists in England-in her literature, in her religious and philanthropic organisations, in the lives of multitudes of her citizens; but so long as crime and pauperism are rampant in our midst-so long as the conditions of existence in our great cities doom thousands, if not millions, of our fellow creatures to lives of pollution and misery, so long will it be a bitter sarcasm to speak of our country as Christian, or of the age in which we live as "civilised." Public attention just now is being called to the condition of Liverpool. There is good reason why this should be done; for it would be improvible to improve a tate of things impossible to imagine a state of things more shocking than that which has long existed in our principal seaport town. But we must not forget that the evils referred to, although prevailing in an aggravated form in Liverpool, are not peculiar to that place. The concentration of population in large cities, it would appear, has gone on too rapidly for the religious, educational, and sanitary machinery of the country to keep pace with it; and the result is that everywhere we find growing up denre masses of human beings who have no reverence for morality or decency, and who either spend their time in the practice of odious vices or deliberately prey upon society. We are not writing, be it remembered, of Russia or some other distant country, but of England; and it appears to us that this fact should make us less vain-glorious, and induce us not to boast too much of our superiority to other nations.

The case of Liverpool is one eminently deserving of attention, for the Black Book of that town contains facts so startling that they cannot fail to produce an impression upon the mind of every thoughtful person. What, then, is the first fact that meets our view? It is that during the year 1876, 45,000 persons were judicially punished in Liverpool; that is to say, about one in ten of the population. We know that the Mayor has endeavoured to blunt the edge of this statement by pleading that a large number of these 45,000 cases had merely arisen from contravention of the Passenger Act and of other bye-laws of the town. We do not perceive the force or relevance of this criticism. Contravention of any laws, whether bye laws or not, surely shows the operation of a lawless spirit; and if it could be alleged that one-tenth of the population of London had, in the course of a single twelvementh, committed offences which called for judicial punishment, we think that such an explanation as the Mayor of Liverpool has offered would be simply laughed out of court. The expense which the existence of this vicious population entails upon the borough is very large; police magistrates and gaols costing last year a sum of upwards of 180,000l., or at the rate of 394l. per thousand inhabitants. The charge for police alone has risen from 67,000l. in 1865 to 112,000l. in 1876 a ratio of increase far in excess of the growth of population. One of the chief causes of the mass of crime existing in Liverpool is the overcrowding which takes place in the neighbourhood of the docks, where, according to Mr. R. W. Pitcher, two bundred thousand human beings are huddled together in a space lamentably insufficient for their accommodation. The misery of these unhappy people—especially of the aged and the very young of both sexes—is simply appalling. In the fearful battle for existence against vitiated air and other foul impurities, the death-rate of infants has in a single year reached the proportion of 292 per 1,000. Happy the little ones who died, in comparison with the survivors, destined to become the drunkards, the prostitutes, and the gaol-birds of the next generation! Father Nugent's dreadful picture of the prevalence of crime among the female portion of the community is fully borne out by statistics which have just been published, for it appears that out of 8,443 Roman Catholic prisoners, 4,571 were women. We refuse to endorse the argument of a contemporary that the large amount of crime

which is laid at the door of the Roman Catholics s attributable to their belonging to that faith. We fear that if they were to turn Protestants to morrow, neither the character nor the position of the Irish poor would be sensibly improved. Unfortunately, in Liverpool, as in other places, they belong for the most part to a squalid and tbriftless class; and when they are crowded into narrow and noisome dena, and, at the same time, tempted to acquire a taste for the gin bottle, their moral degradation is rapidly completed. Yet, so long as these poor people are compelled to herd together like rabbits, we have no right to rail against them for their love of drink. It is only natural that they should prefer the gin palace to the wretched homes in which they are forced to live, and that in endeavouring to find relief in the maddening cup they should qualify themselves for

the prison and the gallows.

We fear that there will be no adequate remedy for this deplorable state of things until the Corporation of Liverpool is rescued from the control of brewers and publicans, and it is no longer possible to say that in particular districts there are six groggeries to one breadshop. Intemperance in that town is, as we have seen, a fearfully prolific source of crime, but the closing of public houses—imperatively as so stringent a measure is called for - will not of itself abate the nuisance. The mistake lies in supposing that men and women of the humbler classes can possibly be moral, when they have no alternative but to live day by day in violation of the laws of morality. The correspondent whose letter we have already quoted has made a practical suggestion which we devoutly hope may be carried out. He says :- "It seems to me that Lord Derby, Lord Sefton, and other great landowners shoul! devote some portion of their money and many acres adjoining the town to the erection of good working-class habitations on a large scale adjacent to the railways. They could build such cottages much cheaper than land speculators and builders, and could let them at about two thirds or less of the present high rentals, so that working men could live outside and be able to pay rents and railway fares; and they could sell a house or two (as freehold or leasehold) at moderate prices to any working man who had saved the money. If those great landowners would do so, they could draw from the town a large portion of the respectable working men, and thus make room within the town for the labourers to spread.' If ever there was a case in which the rich might be envied the possession of their wealth this is one, and we sincerely hope that the great proprietors who own so large a part of Liverpool and its environs will respond to the appeal thus made to them.

It is said that 20,000% will not pay the expenses of Stanley's African expedition.

The daughters of the late Mr. Richard Cobden, M.P., are now collecting and arranging his correspondence with a view to its immediate publication. Mr. Elliot Stock has in the press a cheap edition of the Rev. Edward White's work on "Life in Christ," revised and enlarged, with observations on

recent controversies on immortality.

The first volume of the "New Testament Com-

mentary," edited by the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, will be ready for delivery very soon.

The latest story about Dean Stanley, says the London Examiner, is that he is engaged on an ecclesiastical novel, having St. Andrew's for its central attraction, and that it will bring into pro-

minence some of the leading events in the Dean's personal history.

Messrs. C. Kegan Paul and Co. are bringing out a small edition of Tennyson's works, in about the same size as the "Handy Volume Shakespeare."

The edition will be completed in ten volumes. The edition will be completed in ten volumes.

Mr. Philip C. Garrett, of the United States, has offered a prize of 1,250 francs (60%) for the best essay on "The most practicable and promptly attainable means for preventing wars by the agency The essays are, it of international arbitration." may be presumed, to be in the French language. But any inquiries or communications on the question must be addressed direct to Mr. Garrett, care of M. G. Köhler, Printer, 72, Rue Ommeganck,

Antwerp.

The Master of the Rolls had before him on Friday the case of Keble r. Stock. This was a motion for an injunction, on behalf of the Rev. Thomas Keble and others, to restrain the publication, by photography or otherwise, of any fac-simile copies of the author's original manuscript of the "Christian Year." By consent, the motion stands over for a fortnight, the defendant in the meantime giving an undertaking in the terms of the notice of motion.

Three editions of "Some Difficulties of Felief," by the Rev. T. Teignmouth Shore, having been ex-hausted, a fourth edition is now in the press, which will be ready for publication in a few days.

Mesars. Tegg and Co, are about to publish a New Series of Educational Books for Elementary Schools, by the Rev. Dr. Cunningham Geikie.

Literature.

"IN THE LEVANT."*

The title of this work will hardly give to the intending reader a fully correct conception of its contents. He will scarcely, for instance, expect to find in it a detailed account of a tour through Palestine and Syria, or an equally full narrative of the author's observations of Constantinople and the Turks. Yet these constitute the most interesting contents of this volume, of which it may be said that not only is no page uninteresting, but that every one contains almost unequalled pre-Raphaelite pictures of Eastern society, and that the work sparkles throughout with natural and unexpected humour.

We believe that Mr. Warner's work is well known in the United States, but this is its first appearance in England. A previous volume, which has not come under our notice, contained a description of a "Winter on the Nile, among Mummies and Moslems." This is an independent continuation of his Eastern tour. Of Mr. Warner's narrative as a whole it is as well to say at once what may be honestly said of it. He has both sentiment and reverence; he is quite susceptible to the impressions naturally produced by visits to places consecrated by sacred histories and historical traditions; but he is incapable of using couleur de rose in any one of his descriptions. He sees things with the eyes of a New Englander of the nineteenth century, and nothing will induce him to call a spade anything but a spade. In fact, he describes what every other traveller sees, and in private, talks about, but does not describe in books and lectures. Mr. Warner states all in naked truth, just as it appears, reserving nothing, colouring nothing. The result, to a great extent, with respect to the Holy Land especially. cially, appears to be, that the unrealised imagination is superior to the realised fact, and that, on the whole, in order to sustain an educated reverence for the sacred sites so identified even with our Christian life, it is better to keep away from the Holy Land as it When the traveller is there he has to shut his eyes at what is actually before them, and attempt to revive the ideals of his youth and early manhood. Palestine, in fact, is not Palestine. Its once fruitful plains are desolate; its towns and cities are miserable and dirty Turkish slums.

Mr. Warner began his tour at Jaffa. He describes the town, as he does all other places that he visits, with what we feel to be photographic truthfulness; but, unlike some other travellers, he declines to be "taken in" either by guide-books or guides. He visited, of course, the house of Simon the Tanner, and this is an early specimen of his style of description of all such manufactured exhibitions:—

After breakfast we sallied out to see the sig ts; besides the house of Simon the Tanner, there are not many. The house of Simon is, as it was at the time of St. Peter, by the seaside. We went upon the roof (and it is more roof than anything else) where the apostle lay down to sleep and saw the vision, and looked around upon the other roofs and upon the wide sweep of the tumbling sea. In the court is a well, the stone curb of which is deeply worn in several places by the rope, showing long use. The water is brackish; Simon may have tanned with it. The house has not probably been destroyed and rebuilt more than four or five times since St. Peter dwelt here; the Romans once built the entire city. The chief room is now a mosque. We inquired for the house of Dorcas, but that is not shown, although I understood that we could see her grave outside the city. It is a great oversight not to After breakfast we sallied out to see the sig ts grave outside the city. It is a great oversight not to the house of Dorcas, and one that will long annoy pilgrims in these days of multiplied dis-coveries of sacred rites.

At the same time our author is not insensible, as we have already intimated, to the impressions naturally produced by being in the place where the miraculous vision appeared to Peter. And so, he says:-

Here, or hereabouts, the apostle saw that marvellous vision which proclaimed to a weary world the brother-hood of man. From this spot issued the gospel of democracy: "Of a truth, I perceive that God is no respecter of persons." From this insignificant dwelling respecter of persons." From this insignificant dwelling went forth the edict that broke the power of tyrants, and loosed the bonds of slaves, and ennobled the lot of women, and enfranchised the human mind. Of all places on earth I think there is only one more worthy of pilgrimage by all devout and liberty-loving souls.

Here we have two characteristics of the author as a traveller. He utterly refuses to believe in or to report a manifest invention. Your lecturer, who has been to the Holy Land, speaking to a wondering audience, will say that he saw the house of Simon the Tanner, and expatiate upon his emotions thereon. Mr. Warner knows that he could not have seen it, and therefore will not say that he did. Notwithstand-

* In the Levant. By CHARLES DUDLEY WARNER. (Sampson Low and Co.)

ing, he, too, has his emotions, but they are independent of the present local fiction, and arise from a deeper source.

The journey from Jaffa to Jerusalem was highly enjoyed, and the description of the flower-carpeted valleys that lay along the route are given with genuine enthusiasm. Here, at least, there is truthful nature, and nature, probably, as it was seen by the prophets, the apostles, the Messiah Himself. One can be sure that the ever of all with whom we can be sure that the eyes of all with whom we are so familiar from the Scriptures must have rested upon just such flowers and plants, which must have grown and grown, from the time that the earth became capable of bearing them. On the way we have another specimen of matter-of-factness:-

As we pass out of this wady, the German driver points to a forlorn village clinging to the rocky slope of a hill to the right, and says,—
"That is where John Baptist was born."
The information is sudden, and seems improbable, especially as there are other places where he was born.
"How do you know?" we ask.
"O, I know ganz wohl; I been five years in dis land, and I ought to know."

Descending into a deep raying we cross a brook.

and I ought to know."

Descending into a deep ravine we cross a brook, which we are told is the one that flows into the Valley of Elah, the valley of the "terebinth" or button-trees; and if so, it is the brook out of which David took the stone that killed Goliath. It is a bright, dashing stream. I stood upon the bridge, watching it dancing down the ravine, and should have none but agreeable recollections of it, but that close to the bridge stood in the doorway sat the most vile grog-shop, and in the doorway sat the most villainous-looking man I ever saw in Judæa, rapacity and murder in his eyes.

We come to Jerusalem. Our author went straight to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, and he says "perhaps it was a mistake to go there at all." For he remarks:—

It was in obedience to a natural but probably mistaken impulse, that I went straight to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre during my first hour in the city. Perhaps it was a mistake to go there at all; certainly I should have waited until I had become more accustomed to holy places. When a person enters this memorable church, as I did, expecting to see only two sacred sites, and is brought immediately face-to-face with thirty-seven, his mind is staggered, and his credulity becomes so enfeebled that it is practically useless to him thereafter in any part of the Holy City. And this is a pity, for it is so much easier and sweeter to believe than to doubt.

A more graphic description of Jerusalem and its once sacred places than is to be found in these pages, has never, to our knowledge, been written. One agrees that it would have been better, if possible, to have visited it two thousand or so years ago. Everything that meets the sight is incongruous with all the old associations; much is positively offensive and revolting. You pass through filthy streets; you are importuned by dirty and ragged beggars. Our author says:—

The next morning (it was the 7th of April) was very cold, and the day continued so. Without, the air was keen, and within it was nearly impossible to get warm or keep so, in the thick-walled houses, which had gathered the damp and chill of dungeons. You might suppose that the dirtiest and most beggarly city in the world could not be much deteriorated by the weather, but it is. In a cheerful, sunny day you find that the desolation of Jerusalem has a certain charm and attraction: even a tattered Jew leaning against a ruined wall, tion: even a tattered Jew leaning against a ruined wall, or a beggar on a dunghill, is picturesque in the sunshine; but if you put a day of chill rain and frosty wind into the city, none of the elements of complete misery are wanting. There is nothing to be done, day or night; indeed, there is nothing ever to be done in the evening, except to read your guide-book—that is, the Bible—and go to bed. You are obliged to act like a Christian here, whatever you are.

Yet, when Mr. Warner visited the Sepulchre he

can say :-

Taking my chance in the line, I passed into the first apartment, called the Chapel of the Angel, a narrow and gloomy ante-chamber, which takes its name from the fragment of stone in the centre, the stone upon the fragment of stone in the centre, the stone which the angel sat after it had been rolled away from which the angel sat after it had been rolled away from which the angel sat after of light came through the low the sepulchre. A stream of light came through the low and narrow door of the tomb. Through the passage to this vault only one person can enter at a time, and the tomb will hold no more than three or four. Stooping along the passage, which is cased with marble like the tomb, and may cover natural rock, I came into the sacred place, and into a blaze of silver lamps, and candles. The vault is not more than six feet by seven, and is covered by a low dome. The sepulchral stone occupies all the right side, and is the object of devotion. It is of marble, supposed to cover natural stone, and is cracked and worn smooth on the edge by the kisses of millions of people. The attendant who stood and is cracked and worn smooth on the edge by the kisses of millions of people. The attendant who stood at one end opened a little trap-door, in which lamp-cloths were kept, and let me see the naked rock, which is said to be that of the tomb. While I stood there in that very centre of the faith and longing of so many souls, which seemed almost to palpitate with a consciousness of its awful position, pilgrim after pilgrim, on bended knee, entered the narrow way, kissed with fervour or with coldness the unresponsive marble, and withdrew in the same attitude. Some approached it with streaming eyes and kissed it with trembling rapture; some ladies threw themselves upon the cold stone and sobbed aloud. Indeed, I did not of my own will intrude upon these acts of devotion, which have the right of secresy, but it was some time before I the right of secresy, but it was some time before I could escape, so completely was the entrance blocked up. When I had struggled out, I heard chanting from the hill of Golgotha, and saw the gleaming of a hundred lights from chapel and tomb and remote recesses, but I cared to see no more of the temple itself that day.

We quote the following relative to Bethany:— Bethany is a squalid hamlet clinging to the rocky hillside, with only one redeeming feature about it—the prospect. A few wretched one-storey huts of stone, and a miserable handful of Moslems, occupy this favourite home and resting place of our Lord. Close at hand, by the roadside, cut in a rock and reached by a steep descent of twenty-six steps, is the damp and doubtful tomb of Lazarus, down into which anyone may go for half-a-fraire paid to the Moslem guardian. The house of Mary and Martha is exhibited among the big rocks of Mary and Martha is exhibited among the big rocks and fragments of walls; upon older foundations loose walls are laid, rudely and recently patched up with cut stones in fragments, and pieces of Roman columns. The house of Simon the leper, overlooking the whole, is a mere heap of ruins. It does not matter, however, that all these dwellings are modern; this is Bethany, and when we get away from its present wretchedness we remember only that we have seen the very place that Christ loved.

that Christ loved.

Well worn and commonly familiar are the usual descriptions of the remainder of a Palestine tour after leaving Jerusalem. The place in which our author seems to have stayed longest after leaving the Holy City was Damascus. Little detailed descriptions are given of the "most ancient city in the world." Two faults are found with it—one that it is comparatively modern, and the other that it is impossible to see the city as a whole, it being nothing but a collection of narrow alleys and lanes. Some houses of rich inhabitants were visited, and in these probably the ancient splendour of Eastern life remains.

Full justice is done to Constantinople and to the Turks. The description, even after reading all other descriptions, which are as common almost as newspapers, is intensely interesting. Mr. Warner was there in 1875, but he had an instinct of what was to come, foreseeing the decay of the Ottoman Power and of the Ottoman race. He says in his Preface:

The notes of the journey were taken and the books were written before there were any signs of the present Oriental disturbances, and the observations made are therefore uncoloured by any expectation of the existing state of affairs. Signs enough were visible of a transition period, extraordinary but hopeful; with the existence of poverty, oppression, superstition, and ignorance were mingling Occidental and Christian influences, the faint beginnings of a revival of learning and the stronger pulsations of awakening commercial and the stronger pulsations of awakening commercial and industrial life. The best hope of this revival was then, as it is now, in peace and not in war.

We have not space to reproduce Mr. Warner's many vivid touches and humorous traveller's sketches. We must content ourselves with saying that it is long since we have read so enjoyable a book of Eastern travel. And yet it has somewhat damped our old enthusiasm for the East.

A STUDY OF SHELLEY.*

Mr. Barnett Smith has made a very careful study of his subject, and has presented Shelley if not in wholly new lights, yet in a more favourable aspect, especially with regard to those more trying points in which the verdict of English feeling was most apt to go against him. Mr. Barnett Smith, too, has been wise in avoiding the mere apologetic tone, and in accepting Shelley simply as he was. He endeavours mainly to draw our sympathies more fully towards the man, by leading us to a full appreciation of the rarer and less understood aspects of his nature. And a singular nature indeed it was. Shelley's constitution was so ethereal and unearthly, that he may almost be said to have lived a kind of semi-disembodied life. The wall of partition by which ordinary mortals are fenced from many torments, was in him reduced to a veil of such tenuity that, in unfavourable circumstances, his sensations were mere misery. This peculiar unfleshly detachment from the ordina concerns of life and human experience, which is reflected in Shelley's earlier poems, presents a peculiar fascination to the literary student. He is conducted to regions through which no feet had heretofore trod—worlds of vugue spiritual experience and dilated ideal grandeur, far apart from earth. And along with this runs the intensest strain of active human sympathy, which imparts now and then an inexpressible and transcendent tenderness, taking force from the wholly exceptional and aërial accompaniments. Unless the reader is prepared to appreciate both elements, he need hardly begin to read the "Alastor," and still less the "Revolt of Islam." And the phenomenon is only made the more interesting and puzzling when we pass on to the "Cenci," to find that this fanciful dreamer and adventurer, stirred by a subject of weird and awful grandeur, could write with a distinctness of dramatic aim and a pathetic simplicity at times rising to the sublime; presenting his men and women with a clearness and unaffected strength that professed dramatists might envy. But the two strains— that of intensest ideal passion, and of keen

*Shelley: a Critical Biography. By GEORGE BARNETT SMITH. (Edinburgh: David Douglas.)

sympathy for concrete suffering-mingle also in Shelley's life; so that his poetry may be regarded as the more faithful reflection of it. The man, who, as it were, sought out a solitude, where he might dream his dream apart, stood not aloof even from practical politics, but mingled with earnestness in the strife-condemning the sins of those in power, and making common cause with the down-trodden; thus involving himself in d fficulties manifold. Who could believe that this serial creature, full of sentiment and the passion for freedom, would have written thus on the question of universal suffrage :-

I confess I consider its adoption in the present unprepared state of public feeling and knowledge a measure fraught with peril. I think that none but those who register their names as paying a small sum in direct taxes ought at present to send members to Parliament. The consequence of the immediate extension of the elective franchise to every male adult would be to place power in the hands of men who have been rendered brural and torpid and ferocious by ages of slavery. ... Nothing less consists with reason or affords

. . . Nothing less consists with reason or affords smaller hopes of beneficial issue, than the plea which would abolish the regal and the aristocratical branches of our constitution, before the public mind, through many gradations of improvement, shall have arrived at the maturity which can disregard these symbols of its

This extract, as Mr. Smith says, sufficiently disposes of the charge that Shelley was merely a mad revolutionist, as other extrac's he gives almost demonstrate Shelley's approach to something like acceptance of Christianity in affree and liberal sense, as opposed as well could be to his earlier position in "Queen Mab." Shelley's peculiar vein of practical sympathy, sense, and ability for self-denying action is as efficiently seen in many instances in his life. Byron could never sufficiently wonder at the practical energy and self-denial of which Shelley was capable, and with good reason. Turning to the last chapter, on the poetry of Shelley, we find this passage, and must quote it :-

Shelley's refined intellect mistook its office in giving his political opinions through a poetic medium; and the harmony of his work was destroyed by convulsions of anger at what he deemed the violations of the eternal principles of right. It is in his perception of the beautiful, his sympathy, fine enthusiasm, his eloquence, and his imagination, that his strength lies. . . After all deductions, he will exercise a more durable influence upon the poetry of England than any of his contemporaries and successors save Wordsworth. His hays canraries and successors save Wordsworth. His bays cannot wither with the lapse of time. Other poets may
have their seasons of spasmodic popularity, but he can
never be superseded. With twenty years added to his
career his hand might have touched that of Shake-

Mr. Smith has faithfully tried to find a point of union between the facts of Shelley's life and his various writings; and he has certainly not been unsuccessful. His work is, in the best sense, what he calls it, a critical biography. He has read much and thought much; and the little volume skilfully contains the results. With this book in his hand, the student will find himself at the outset relieved from many of the misreports and prejudices which tended to make the writings of Shelley more of puzzles than they really were. The chapter on "Shelley as Politician, Atheist, and Philanthropist," par-ticularly deserves to be read and studied. Mr. Smith has brought to his task a quick yet cautious intelligence, an educated sympathy, a resolute industry, and a quiet but finished style well suited to the purpose; and he has written a volume which we think most students of Shelley will be inclined to put on the shelf, beside Lady Shelley's Memorials, Trelawney and Hogg, and Mr. Richard Garnett's "Relics." And this is surely no slight praise.

CHRISTMAS BOOKS.

I.

It would not be easy to meet with a more sumptuous, and at the same time a more tasteful and instructive, drawing-room book than is presented to us in "Examples of Contemporary Art (1). Mr. Comyns Carr is a faithful student of art, and observes a high and enlightened standard, notwithstanding that he may just a trifle too much incline to assert for the Royal Academy a merely sectarian position in art, and to claim a little too much for the Grosvenor Gallery, because it has given great prominence to elements which art-institutes in England had shown too much of a tendency to proscribe altogether. Art is not to be treated exactly as though it were for schoolgirls merely; but neither is it to be treated with violence as though schoolgirls exist only to be offended. Mr. Comyns Carr writes in a clear and graceful and finished way throughout. The plan of the book does not allow him to be anything but sketchy; but he

(1) Examples of Contemporary Art. Etchings from Representative Works by Living English and Foreign Artists. Edited, with Critical Notes, by J. COMYNS CARR. (Chatto and Windus.)

presents suggestively a very good general picture of the present condition and tendencies of art in England and abroad. He is very firm in his declarations against the prudery which drove some of Mr. Burne Jones works out of English exhibitions; but it strikes us that, in spite of his usual restraint and measure, he does, as is almost inevitable in the literary mouthpieces of art-reactions, magnify too much the claims of Mr. Burne Jones. We think he is far more reliable in what he says of Mr. Watts, in whose portraits he detects the presence of a fine element of imagination-a kind of sympathy between painter and subject that finds the most skilful indirect expression. Certainly no finer example of this could be found than the delicate touches of idealisation in the portrait of Lady Lindsay. Some difficulties of a very pronounced kind have been been most dextrously overcome, and the etching, admirable as it is, can hardly be said to represent this element in any excess. Very good are Mr. Comyn Carr's remarks on the "distinction" of Mr. Orchardson's pictures also. The unity of sentiment in Mr. R. W Macbeth's "Potatoe Harvest in the Fens," is duly recognised—a point in which that picture is superior to the one of the former year. The leading pictures of the Paris Salon of 1877 are treated in the same faithful, delicate manner; and several of the artists are very skilfully and suggestively compared. We are glad to see that justice is done to Cardieu, and also on the other side to M. Toudouse. The etchings are most beautiful—especially those of Mr. Burne Jones's "Merlin," and Mr. Orchardson's "Queen of the Swords." The two French laudscapes which come last in the work are gems. They are by Van Marcke and C. Bernier. The book has received from the publishers every care possible, and we have no hesitation in saying that, if this is not the very foremost of the season's art books, that must be a very fine production indeed to which it will be a second.

In "The Bird World," (2) Messrs. Nelson, if they have had to proceed somewhat in the lines of former successes, have certainly not fallen far behind. It is a choice book. We think, as a bit of writing, this is the best and most complete thing Mr. Davenport Adams has done. It is clear that he has set about his task con amore; and has spared no pains, bringing his information from the most remote quarters, and always enlivening it by bright touches of fancy and poetry. The engravings are, with-out exception, fine, and are printed with such care that most of them have all the effect and true graduation of steel. The book, alike from its subject and method of treatment, its exquisite illustrations, and beautiful printing, ought to be one of the favourites of the season. It is clear that the publishers have spared no pains, and deserve success whether or not they may

secure it. "Through Holland" (3) does not pretend to be an exhaustive record of travel in Holland. It is rather quaint, easy, and familiar, and aims more at exciting a curiosity in that most interesting country and its people than in satisfying it. Mr. Wood set out accompanied by a friend, an artist (to whom, no doubt, we are indebted for the beautiful and often thrilling illustrations), and wandered about apparently without any fixed plan, staying for a little time wherever the mood fixed him. Of all ways of travelling this is the most delicious, and Mr. Wood's account is pervaded by the sense of it from first to last. The Hague, Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Haarlem, Hoorn, Broeck (that queer paradise of Holland), Utrecht, Kampen, Dordrecht, Scheveningen are all brightly and attractively described. The illustrations, as we have said, add much to the value of a pleasant

"Sketches from Nature" (4) is as good as the title. Lady Verney has a fine eye and quick sympathies, and she can tell a little story well. not omitting the points, and can paint a slight picture, and skilfully draw the lesson that lies wrapt up in many of Nature's ways. She reads largely, too, in the scientific books of the daynotes the more original points—and shows a great deal of aptitude in popularising them. This little book will be valued by some for its information, by others for its wise lessons, and by others still for its variety. All, however, will agree in praising the light gracefulness of the style and its happy exhibitating effect. They may not be able to analyse it; but none the less

(2) The Bird World; Described with Pen and Pencil. By W. H. DAVENPORT ADAMS, and H. GIACONELLI, Illustrator of "The Bird," by Michelet. (Thos. Nelson and Sons.)

(3) Through Holland. By CHARLES W. WOOD. With fifty-seven il ustrations. (Beutley and Son.)
(4) Sketches from Nature with Pen and Pencil. By Lady VERNEY, author of "Stone Edge." (Daldy, Isbister and Co.)

will they feel it and exult over it. We cordially commend the neat square volume, with its choice engravings, its attractive, well gilt

cover, and suggestive side design.

Mrs. Comyns Carr, in her "North Italian
Folk (5), has given a most pleasant resumé of her brighter experiences during a considerable period spent in Genoa and in the Apennines. She faithfully describes the market-places, the churches, the festas, the beggars, the streetgatherings; and, in fact, glances at every phase of life to be observed by the foreigner in North Italy. She writes in a most captivating, unaffected way, that must at once recommend itself, we should think, to lady-readers. On the whole, we have seldom read a brighter, more truthful, or more instructive book; and we hereby give it our strongest recommendation to those who do not care for weak intellectual dawdling, and yet may not desire to cumber themselves with set and heavy books of travel. For such this is quite the book.

CHRISTMAS NUMBERS.

So far as we have yet been able to investigate matters, the Gentleman's Magazine Annual is the first. Mr. Francillon is at his very best in "Old Father Time," in which he finds, or rather maker, a rare opportunity for the exercise of his inventive fancifulness and his peculiar realism. It is a most striking story-not spun ont beyond moderate limits, concentrated in interest, and relieved by touches of a most original kind. Mr. Julian Hawthorne in "The Pearl Shell Necklace" would have written a most beautiful little idyl had it not been that that peculiar eeriness, which forms so efficient a part of his art generally, here intrudes also. But the "Pearl Necklace" after all had only a blissful virtue, and was indebted to no witchcraft, so we should not complain; but as there is something odd in some folks' shake of the hand, so there is in Mr. Julian Hawthorne's very sentences. "Poor Zeph" is in Mr. F. W. Robinson's best vein. He concentrates the interest skilfully, and as we follow vain, weak, wilful Dudley Grey and poor Zeph, the pathos of life does certainly arise upon us. We say "Poor Zeph" as we lay down the dim pages-poor Zeph that once was! It is truly touching, and yet it is not harrowing, and therein lies Mr. Robinson's art, else it had been quite unsuited for a Christmas number.

Next, we are inclined to think, comes Mr. Farjeon's "Solomon Isaacs," which forms the Christmas number of Tinsley's Magazine. It is marked by Mr. Farjeon's power of minute portraiture, and is full of the humour peculiar to his style. He makes us acquainted with several types of Jewish character in London, and we follow the fortunes of Moses Levy and his circle and the Isaacs, or Izards, and theirs, with very keen interest. Leon and Rachel are both very well done, and our curiosity respecting them grows as we read. The access of Solomon to fortune is as unexpected as is his loss of it, and his subsidence once more into his old ways of life. Mr. Farjeon has hardly written anything more quietly characteristic and quaintly humorous, and we are assured that the story will be widely read and liked, for he has almost broken new ground, and his treatment is most original.

The Belgravia Annua! consists of a selection of quite short stories, mostly well suited for a Christmas number, but none of them rising very far above the ordinary mark, though all are clever, and most of them have a touch of seasonable fun. Mr. G. A. Sala is always in good trim, and certainly he is so here. After him we like best "Peter Stott's Dream" and "Nipped in the Bud." The little poems are exceedingly good.

Good Cheer is this year composed of three stories. This plan has an advantage over that taken last year, when Katherine Saunders gave one of her very best bits of English middle-class life, and it would sometimes need to have such advantage. Mr. Anthony Trollope is making too much of his "Telegraph Girls" we fear, and this story will not raise his reputation. But Mrs. Oliphant, in "The Lily and the Thorn," is certainly strong alike in character, variety, situation, and incident. The interest is concentrated, and becomes more and more so as the tale proceeds. The results of a very little falsity is tragic. The mother of Abel Murray is sketched with power, and so is the pretty flirting sister. The young gentleman who, at the last, has a burden of crime thrust on him and acts so honourably, is exceedingly well done, and so is the old dilettante laird and the stupid vicer who precipitates the crisis unwittingly. But we are a little

(5) North Italian Folk. Sketches from Town and Country Life. By Mrs. COMYNS CARR. Hiustrated by RALPH CALDECOFF. (Chatte and Windus.)

too much reminded now and then of another story, and is Mrs. Oliphant not wrong in choosing England as the local: instead of Scotland? Miss Keary's story is almost too slight for its place after Mrs. Oliphant's, but it is pleasant enough. The story of Angelica Kaufmann has, however, been better told in fiction, and she comes too late even for a Christmas number.

Miss Sara Doudney has written for Paths of Peace—the Christmas Number of the Sunday Magazine—a careful and finished story called "Stepping Stones," in which the Laureate's idea of rising "through stepping-stones of our dead selves to higher things," is efficiently exhibited. Miss Doudney has here given great promise, but sometimes her touch is hesitating still, and the lesson in some ways hampers her; but it is an advance on anything she has heretofore done in the light of art.

Messrs. Grant and Co. have issued a Christmas Number, exclusively supplied by Mr. Francillon. It is in his usual style, brilliant, inventive, and combining great knowledge of life and character with a certain fautasticality, which is very attractive. Allan Hayworth is splendidly conceived, we think; and there are some delicate touches in the portrait of Dora. But we cannot run the risk of injuring Mr. Francillon by telling aught more of the story, which many will read with great delight.

The Christmas Number of London Society is composed of a variety of stories in somewhat different styles, though a slight effort after sensationalism and surprise is evident in all of them; they are good of their kind, however. Especially do we like "The Old Soldier's Story" and "Christmas Day," both of which have more sufficiently natural touches; but the "Coachful of Ghosts" and the "Highwayman Outwitted," pass rather beyond the line of probability for our taste; and yet the former, it must be admitted, is cleverly and gracefully written.

The Once a Week Annual consists of one story, "Hush-a-bye, Baby," by Mr. G. Manville Fenn. It is ingenious, and shows knowledge of certain strata of city life; but it is set too much in the key of the followers of Dickens; and sometimes affects to make too much of insignificant traits and circumstances. The very titles of the chapters are affectations in this line—a parody that would have driven Dickens into a passion. It is now and then touching, however, and is worked up with considerable skill, and to a fine climax. Tip and Tiny are well done—the best in the story, we think.

The Archer, which is the Christmas number of the Quiver, departs from the conventional idea so far as to include sermons and essays in its contents. And why not? Are sermons altogether out of fashion at Christmas now? Nay, verily. Then have the Church and its voices a new claim? We are not sure, however, that Bishop Thorold is better than he was before he was consecrated: we think he is, if anything, thinner. Concentration was never his strong point. Of the stories, we like best "Ida's Christmas Eve," by Miss Doudney, and "Sharpe's Cottage." On the whole, the Archer is a most readable and worthy production.

Golden Christmas (Longley's Annual) consists of a series of short stories, all fairly well told. The "Foster-brother's Story" and "Grandmother's Story" have a touch of humour, and convey a good lesson; and "How I Fought in the Crimean War" should please the boys.

In this place we may be permitted to refer to the Christmas number issued with Chappell's Musical Magazine (50, New Bond-street), which consists of some fifty compact pages of new and popular dance music, at the very low rate of one shilling. These quadrilles, polkas, and waltzes will no doubt be in great request during the coming festive season, and their excellence is guaranteed by the names of such eminent composers as D'Albert, Strauss, Waldteufel, Hoffman, and Hecker. Notwithstanding the cheapness of the volume, the type is clear and the paper good.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS.

Cast Adrift: the Story of a Waif. By Mrs. A. H. MARTIN. (Griffith and Farran.) A little girl, bereft of her mother and forsaken by her father, is rescued from "the parish" by a warm-hearted Christian lady, who adopts her. An interval of separation ensues in consequence of the father appearing to claim her; but after a year of such anguish as we should hope rarely falls to the lot of guileless children, she regains the home of her adoption, and though a new grief comes upon her before many years have passed, we leave her in good hands, and can just foresee a new departure of the most

satisfactory kind, when the curtain falls. It is a well-written story, and its influence can only be good.

Little Ta'k; with Little People; Pet's Posy, or Pictures and Stories (Cassell, Petter, and Galpin.) These are capital reward books for children who have just learned to read easily. Engravings and letterpress occupy alternate pages. It is true we see a few old faces, but then we have to support one or two subscribers to Little Folks and other juvenile magazines, which may explain the circumstance. We are sure, however, that so large a number of excellent plates as are found here, are seldom to be had so cheaply. They are delightful books for young children, and not a few scraps of information are to be picked up here and there in just such a way as youngsters like to come upon them.

Six Hundred Robinson Crusoes; or the Voyage of the Golden Fleece. By GILBERT MORTIMER. (Sampson Low and Co.) At first, when we looked to the cover of this charming tale, we naturally perhaps thought of Jason, but wondered at the same time, where the six hundred could have come from, and what connection there could be between the two classical, but somewhat different heroes, Jason and our friend Robinson. But we soon found that the Golden Fleece" was the name of a ship, and that this is a tale of a bad shipwreck. As a tale it's "o'er true;" the events described having occurred some twenty years ago, and are now given in detail. The Golden Fleece, with all her passengers, was wrecked on a coral reef in the Atlantic while on a voyage from New York to Aspinwall. What followed is told in vivid style. The title chosen is fully borne out, and the young reader will find plenty of exciting adventures in the narrative. But we trust that the author did not draw the illustrations, which somewhat remind us of the wood engravings of about seventy years ago. And he makes two mistakes. In one place he tells us that the "Union Jack down" was hoisted on the desert island; in another that it was the "Stars and Stripes." And, in the illustration, the flag, whichever it was, is not "down."

King Hetel's Daughter; or, the Fair Gudrun. A Tale of the North Sea. (Frederick Warne and Co.) This is a tale of the old Scandinavian times—of the old Danes and Normans and Zealanders. The author's object, apparently, besides giving a good tale, is to give some idea of the manners of the period chosen—what precise period does not altogether matter, but pre-historic sofar as the characters are concerned. Yet, the spirit of the age has been well caught, with all its savage manner, but, at the same time, its great humanness. Wars, bloodshed, marauding expeditions, revenge, are brought in, yet, withal, tenderness and generosity. The style is well adapted to the times, and the illustrations are singularly good. There is "bold adventure"

in almost every page. Little Mercy; or, for Better for Worse. By MAUD JEANNE FRANC. (Sampson Low and Co) This tale apparently comes to us from an Australian hand, as has been the case with some not inferior works. It is a very pronounced temperance tale, but written in a better style than most of such tales have been. "Little Mercy" is the daughter of an Australian settler living on his "grange" near Adelaide. Every member of this family is a "teetotaller." Little Mercy, by-and-bye, marries a man who is not a teetotaller. The tale tells of the misery that came of it, and so on. A good deal may be learned from it by all readers. Our emperance friends will, no doubt, be rejoiced with it.

God's Silver; or, Youthful Days. By the Hon. Mrs. Greene. (Fred Warne and Co.) Some of these tales we have read before in one or two of our favourite periodicals. They have a character of their own—some of them especially in which the writer takes us to foreign ground and deals with foreign manners, which she does very happily. A good and wise collection is this.

BRIEF NOTICES.

Pastorals of France. By FREDERICK WEDMORE, (Bentley and Son.) One is glad, amidst the turmoil of every-day life, to meet such a book as this. Mr. Wedmore has caught, so to say, the very atmosphere of French rural life, and places it before us in some of the most charming pictures. There are three tales here. Some might say—and only three tales! But such would come to the book without eyes and without feeling. Mr. Wedmore is an artist in words, drawing shades of character as well as of scenery with a supremely delicate touch. And it is because of this, and not because of the tales as tales, although their simplicity is

very charming, that one so thoroughly enjoys this book. It is one for the quiet hours, from which some sense of rest and peace may be obtained.

Monday Lectures in Tremont Temple, Boston U.S. Bythe Rev. Joseph Cook. (R. D. Dickinson.) That Mr. Cook is a remarkable preacher no one-we least of all-will be disposed to deny. He is a clear thinker; his materials are put together with care; his language is well chosen; and he has a peculiar faculty of putting abstruse arguments into a popular form. We have enjoyed the reading of his sermons, and can fully understand how he should attract the large audiences which are said to fill the Tremont Temple. On the other hand, we are inclined to doubt Mr. Cook's wisdom in choosing his subjects. He is always, for instance, harping on Theodore Parker, and to such an extent that we should not feel at all surprised at hearing that a revulsion of opinion had taken place in Mr. Cook, and that he had become a Parkerite himself. He says that nobody reads Parker now. Then why devote half-a-dozen laboriously wrought lectures to him so as to produce an extraordinary demand for them? Apart from this, however, there are many things in these lectures which we feel sure Mr. Cook himself will regret having said, and we should certainly be astonished to find that he held for very long that his argument on the Atonement was an effective one. The laborious distinction drawn between 'punishment" and "chastisement" is a mere quibble upon words.

The Origin of Nations. In Two Parts. On Early Civilisation, on Ethnic Affinities, etc. By GEORGE RAWLINSON, M.A. (Religious Tract Society.) This is such a good work, so scholarly in some parts, and so full of the results of wide reading, if not deep learning, that we are sorry to note any defects in it. Canon Rawlinson's object in writing is to support the chronology of the Bible as it has come down to us. With this he gives large information concerning the "origin of nations." The temptation to keep back or force down evidence upon such a subject is notorious, and probably there is no writer who is not conscious of having felt it. The mischief is that if so much is made to depend upon the chronology of the Bible, and the argument by which it is supported fails, the authority of the Bible, in the minds of a very large class, is lessened. Take Canon Rawlinson's article on Egypt, for instance. In order to support his theory, he gives expression to the opinion that Sir Gardner Wilkinson is the greatest Egyptologist living—utterly ignoring the prince of them all, Dr. Birch. It happens that Sir Gardner agrees with him. The Germans do not agree. In his list of German authorities, he makes no mention of such men as Boeckh and Unger, and the authority of these is more opposed to such a theory as Canon Rawlinson's than that of any other Egyptologists. He is wrong in statement as to the opinion concerning the consecutiveness of dynasties, which he would have found if he had read Dr. Birch. On the other hand, as we have intimated, there is both scholarship and light in this book. Professor Owen's paper is especially valuable, and we are glad to see such good judgment exercised by the Religious Tract Society as is shown in printing it.

Flower, Fruit, and Thorn Pieces. By JEAN PAUL RICHTER Translated by ALEXANDER EWING. (George Bell and Son.) We are glad so classical and so beautiful a work as this is added to Bohn's Standard Library, by Messrs. Bell and Son. Has any one not read it? Then he has missed one of the greatest pleasures to be derived from literature. But it is almost impertinent now to praise Jean

Paul: as well praise Shakespeare.

Meditations on the Miracles of Christ. By the Very Rev. J. S. Howson, D.D., Dean of Chester. (Religious Tract Society.) While Dr. Howson, in these brief reflections upon, and expositions of, the later miracles of our Saviour, has not attempted to deal very critically with sceptical objections to them, we are conscious at the same time that he is familiar with them. The best characteristic of this little volume is not hard criticism, but spiritual truth. Plain and familiar, for the most part, is the language, and very chaste is the thought. Here and there we come upon slightly-touched argument, as for instance, in dealing with testimony of the sacred writers to the reality of the Resurrection. The Dean says:—

The disciples became brave with the Resurrection in retrospect. How do you account for this? Fear makes men cowards. I will take any man who has been guilty of falsehood and deception, and I will confidently appeal to him. Fear is the punishment which comes naturally to such a man, and which, by God's law, he is deemed to suffer. If such was the explanation of the Gospel phenomena at this point, it is abso-

lutely incredible that those who looked forward so timidly to the end of Christ's earthly career, should have looked back thus, gathering strength from the recollection.

This work should be taken up with the disposition to quiet thought.

The Barents Relics, etc. Described and Explained by J. K. DE JONGE. Translated, with a Preface, by L. R. Van Campden. With Map and Illustrations. (Trubner and Co) This is a record of one of the romances of naval exploration. Nearly three hundred years ago the Dutch Government sent an expedition to the Polar seas, under the command of Heemskerck and Barents. The last, in 1596 and 1597, wintered in Nova Zembla. Barents himself never returned, but the expedition did, and a history of it was soon afterwards published. From that time the place of their sojourn was never visited, and, excepting amongst geographical scholars, the memory of it had died out. Some relics, however, were accidentally found there in 1871, but in 1876 Mr. Charles Gardiner, of Temple Goring, in his steam yacht "Gloworm," was stimulated to pay a visit to the place, and make a thorough exploration. He reached Ice Haven, the winter quarters in question, in the summer, and found that the visit had not been paid in vain. The site of the house was quickly identified, and thorough work amongst the ruins led to singular and valuable discoveries. With a Polar bear looking on for a short time, he dug up writings of Barents-since partly restored, and now photographed-and articles of furniture and clothing of almost every description. Here these have lain, for three hundred years, exposed "to all the vicissitudes of an Arctic climate," never seen by the eye of man since the days of Queen Elizabeth. Everything that could be found was brought off. Mr. Gardiner generously offered the whole of them to the Dutch Government-an offer which was gladly accepted. In this work we have a description of the adventures of the yacht and of all the articles found, with fac-similes of Barents' MS., and illustrations of many of the relics. We read and see as though the dead had risen to life, and that we had a communication from the other world. We have the books that wiled away the time of the voyagers in their long winter; the clock that ticked to them, the candles left in their store, and which will still burn, shoes that they wore, and a hundred and more other articles. The parrative is graphic and concise, and the illustrations admirable.

The Frescoed Chamber, &c. Being the Gell Prize Essay. By HELY SMITH. (Seeleys.) Mr. Hely Smith's intention in this work is to exhibit "the New Testament concealed in the Old and the Old revealed in the New." The title is fanciful, and somewhat misleading. The author does not work up to it; but, having told what he means by it, abandons the idea that it contained, and proceeds to an ordinary and somewhat commonplace exposition of his subject. We have found nothing whatever that is new in his work, and altogether it is inferior even to most prize essays.

Side Lights on Scripture Texts. By FRANCIS JACOX, B.A. Cantab. (Hodder and Stoughton.) Mr. Jacox, as we think we have said in a notice of one of his previous works, is an artist in quotation. He reads widely, and appears to have resolved to utilise by quotation every thing that he reads. In the present instance, we have, apparently, a common-place book, made up of classified quotations, strung together by a very Taking the first chapter, slender thread. for instance, we have extracts or remarks relating to the "Tree of Knowledge and the Tree of Life" taken from Milton, Jeremy Taylor, Dante, Robertson, Victor Hugo, Byron, Sir Thomas Browne, Carlyle, Stuart Mill, and so on. Mr. Jacox is equally omnivorous and indiscriminate. Novelists will answer his purpose as well as theologians. The extracts, however, are really good, and the book may be read with interest, a page or so at a time, but we fail to see that it throws the smallest "side light" upon any scripture text.

The Cardiff Times and South Wales Weekly News is commencing a series of sketches of "Notable Men and Women of Wales." Our Our contemporary naturally begins with Mr. Richard, M.P., who is spoken of as the most popular man among the million and a-half population of the Principality. With this number (Nov. 24) was given a good coloured lithographic likeness and a carefully prepared pen and ink sketch of the foremost Welshman of the day.

The first umbrella appeared in England in the car 1777; but history doesn't inform us when the first umbrella disappeared and who carried it off. Almost any man.can tell about what time the last umbrella disappeared, but where is it gone?

Gleanings.

A minister recently prayed for those of his congregation who were "too proud to kneel and too lazy to stand."

In a leading article on the Royal Society, the Times mentions that it is related that in 1661, the year before it was incorporated, the society, at that time a private club, directed an experiment to be made in order to determine the following question -Whether a spider could get out of a space en-closed within a circle formed of powdered unicorn's

The dissection of the Berlin gorilla was performed last week by Professor Virchow and Professor Hartmann in the presence of several prominent Berlin physicians, and it was ascertained that the sudden death of the animal was caused by acute inflammation of the bowels, the same disease which carries off young children so rapidly. The dissection explains the cause of his previous illnesses, and supplies valuable information with regard to the treatment of anthropoidal apes. The button of a glove, iron wire, and pins were found in Pongo's stomach. - Nature.

A CHILD'S FANCY. - A little five-year old could not quite understand why the stars did not shine one night when the rain was pouring down in tor-rents. She stood at the window pondering on the subject with much gravity. All at once her countenance lighted up, and she said, "Mother, I know why the stars don't shine. God has pulled them all

up so as to let the water come through the holes!" ALL THE DIFFERENCE.—Dr. Hans Von Bulow says:—"If I stop practice for one day I notice it in my playing; if I stop two days my friends notice it; if I stop three days the public notice it." It is different with the young man who practises down the street, says the Norristown Herald. If he stops for one day the whole neighbourhood notices it, and feel like paying him five hundred dollars never to begin again. If he doesn't stop for two days, the neighbours ask the police to notice it as a nuisance; and if he doesn't stop for three days, they get down their shot guns and go gunning for

CRYSTALLISED FLOWERS. - A simple method of covering fresh flowers is with alum crystallisation. It is as follows :- Make baskets of pliable copperwire, and wrap them with gauze. Into these tie to the bottom violets, ferns, geranium leaves, chrysanthemums—in fact, any flowers except full-blown roses, and sink them in a solution of alum of one pound to the gallon of water, after the solu-tion has cooled, as their colours will then be preserved in their original beauty, and the crystallised alum will hold faster than when from a hot solu-When you have a light covering of distinct crystals that cover completely the articles, remove carefully, and allow them to drain for twelve

hours On Complexion. - Complexions vary considerably, and therefore it is not wise for every one to wear any particular colour which may be in fashion. In the day not long passed, when salmon-pink and bilious greens were in vogue, the majority of people did not look their best. Blue and violet suit most complexions; orange and its companion tints of amber, yellow, primrose, &c., look well with a dark complexion, provided that it has some colour, and is not sallow. Soarlet and crimson are also becoming to brunetter. Blondes can wear green, peach, brown, and pale blue; black also suits a fair complexion. Brown is the most becoming colour to people who have reddish hair or freckled complexion. Drabs, greys, and neutral tints do not suit people who have pale or sallow complexions.—Cassell's Domestic Dictionary.

Salt in Beer.—The following extract from the

last report of Professor Bernays, public analyst for the parish of Camberwell, is of some interest when read in connection with the controversy raised by Mr. Plimsoll's speech:—"In the past quarter I have examined eleven specimens of beer, ales, and porters. As to alcohol, except in a spruce beer which contained 14 3 per cent., the variation was only between 8 and 10 5 per cent. The same lack of hops is exhibited as of old; at least a little goes a long way. But the most curious feature is in the increase of salt. It will perhaps be remembered how often I have mentioned the almost entire absence of salt in days gone by. Now, however, we have arrived at a quantity, in the case of No. 70, so large that I ventured to obtain a magisterial decision and a penalty, reduced at the request of Mr. Marsden from 10l. to 5l., together with costs. May I give examples, stating the grains per gallon? No. 57, not estimable; 58, 5.60; 59, 11.20; 68, 13.30; 67, 30.10; —, 32.90; 63, 34.30; 61, 44.10; 60, 47.69; 69, 58.10; 70, 82.60. Here, then, we have, from a merely nominal presence, as much as 82 3-5ths grains in a gallon—a quantity sufficient to induce thirst and to encourage drunken-

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS .- Let the Sick take heed .- The Holloway's Pills.—Let the Sick take heed.—The stomach is the commissariat of the physical system. It furnished the material sustenance of every organ. If disordered, the whole body languishes; but however severely it may be affected, its tone and vigour may always be restored by a course of these irre-istible Puls. Bitiousness, indigestion, liver complaints, and other disorders of the stomach, can easily be cured by the use of Holloway's Pills. Thousands attest this assertion, and no sufferer who has ever tried them will deny their supreme efficacy. In every case of stomach disease, from the mildest case of dyspepsia to the disorder of both liver and stomach, from the nausea of the free liver to the vomiting accompanying ulcerated stothe free liver to the vomiting accompanying ulcerated sto-machs, these Pills immediately relieve, and by perseverance

FANCY GOODS OF ENGLISH MANUFACTURE—It is pleasing to find that England holds her own against the keen competition of foreigners in these articles, the demand for which at this time of year is enormous. We are told that which at this time of year is enormous. We are told that Cadbury's, the makers of the celebrated Cocoa Essence, have sent out nearly two millions of their exquisite little boxes of Chocolate since June; and they will form a welcome present to many of our children during the coming Christmas festivities.

Births, Marringes, and Deaths.

MARRIAGES.

PERKINS—SMART.—Nov. 27, at the Congregational Church, Luton, by the Rev. R. Berry, the Rev. H. J. Ferkins, of Clifton Congregational Church, Peckham, to Annie, second daughter of Mr. Arthur Smart, The Elms,

-ROSSIE .- Nov. 27, at Arundel-square Congrega-EWEN-ROSSIE.—Nov. 27, at Arundel-square Congrega-tianal Church, Barnsbury-park, by the Rev. W. Spencer Edwards, John Alexander Ewen, Esq., of London and New Zealand, to Mary Emma Charlett, second daughter of the late William Rossie, Esq. OLIVER.—CARVER.—Dec. 4, at Highbury Chapel, Bristol, by the Rev. L. H. Byrnes, the Rev. H. nry Oliver, B.A., Newport, Mon., to Josephine, only surviving daugh er of the late James Langworthy Carver, of Bristol. No car s.

DEATHS.

JARROLD.-Nov. 24th, at his residence, The Mount, Thorps Hamlet, Norwich, Thomas Jarrold, in his 65th

year.

HERBERT.—Nov. 28, suddenly, at Altrincham, near Manchester, Thomas Martin Herbert, M.A. Professor of Mental and Moral Philosophy at Lancashire College, eldest son of Thomas Herbert, Esq, of The Park, Nottingham.

EPPS'S COCOA.—GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.—"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast-tables with a delicately-flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills. It is by the judicious use of such stricles of diet that a constitution may be gradually built up until strong enough to resist every tendency to disease. Hundreds of subtle realedies are floating ground us ready to strock strong enough to resist every tendency to disease. Hundreds of subtle maladies are floating around us ready to attack wherever there is a weak point. We may escape many a fatal shaft by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure blood and a properly-nourished frame."—Civil Service Gazette. Sold only in packets labelled—"JAMES EPPS & Co., Homeopathic Chemists, London."

Perfection.—Mrs. S. A. Allen's World's Hair Restorer never fails to restore grey hair to its youthful colour, imparting to its per life growth, and lustrous hearth. Its estiminates

ing to it new life, growth, and lustrous beauty. Its action is speedy and thorough, quickly banishing greyness. Its value is above all others. A single trial proves it. It is not a dye, It ever proves itself the natural strengthener of the hair. sold by all Chemists and Perfumers.

Mrs. S. A. ALLEN has for over 40 years manufactured these two preparations. They are the standard articles for the hair. They should never be used together, nor Oil nor Pomade with

Mrs. S. A. Allen's Zylo-Balsamum, a simple tonic and hair-dressing of extraordinary merit for the young. Prema-ture loss of the hair, so common, is prevented. Prompt relief in thousands of cases has been afforded where the hair has been coming out in handfuls. It cleanses the hair and scalp, and removes dandruff. Sold by all Chemists and Pertumers.

CARDINAL ECRU, OR CREAM.-JUDSON'S DYES. White goods may be dyed in five minutes. Ribbons, s.lks, feathers, scarfs, lace, braid, veils, handkerchiefs, clouds, bernouses, Shetland shawls, or sny small article of dress, can easily be dyed without soiling the hands. Violet, magenta, crimson, manve, purple, pink, ponceau, claret, &c., Sixpence per bottle. Sold by Chemists and Stationers.

INVALIDS.—Consumption, Asthma, Bronchitis, Diseases of the Heart, Dropsy, and Tumours quickly cured by Abercrombie's New Solvent Process. Success testified by many ministers and others, with their respective names and addresses added. Inquiry courted. Post Free Six Stamps.— 10, Claremont-square, London, N.

RECKITT'S PARIS BLUE .- The marked superiority of this Laundry Blue over all others, and the quick appreciation of its merits by the public has been attended by the usual result—viz., a flood of imitations. The merit of the latter mainly consists in the ingenuity exerted, not simply in imitating the square shape, but making the general appearance of the wrappers resemble that of the genuine article. The manufacturers beg therefore to caution all buyers to see "Reckitt's Paris Blue" on each packet.

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OLDRIDGE'S BALM OF COLUMBIA.—By the increasing demand for this famed Balm may be estimated its value and efficacy for replentshing, invigorating, and preserving the Hair either from failing off or turning grey. Without it no toilet is complete. It imparts to the hair a bright and glossy appearance, frees it entirely from scurf, and will not soil the most deheate fabric worn as headdress "at home" or in promenade. In the "nursery" its use is invaluable, as it forms in infancy the basis of a healthy and luxuriant head of hair. Sold by all perfumers and chemists, at 3s. 6d., 6s., and 11s. only. Who'esale and retail by the proprietors, C. and A. Oldridge, 22, Wellington-street, seven doors from

of hair. Sold by all perfumers and chemists, at 3s. 6d., 6s., and 11s. only. Who'esale and retail by the proprietors, C. and A. Oidridge, 22, Wellington-street, seven doors from the Strand, London, W.C.

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HEALTH WITHOUT MEDICINE, inconvenience, or expense, in DYSPEPSIA, Chronic Constipation, Diarrhosa, Nervous, Bilious, Pulmonary, and Liver Complaints, Debility, Asthma. Wasting in Old or Young, Nausea, and Vomiting, RESTORED by DU BARRY'S DELICIOUS FOOD:

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them in writing respecting such scheme.

Copies of the scheme, price threepence each, may be obtained from Mr. Toms, the Depository of the British and Foreign School Society, 72, Lancaster-street, S.E.; or from the Secretary, Charity Commission, Whitehall, Lendon, S.W.

(Signed) PATRICK CUMIN, Assistant Secretary.

Education Department. 23rd November, 1877.

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